

THE

Ponconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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well aware, fill their vacant pulpits by the suffrages of the members of each church, usually, however, after having sought and obtained the concurrence of stated worshippers with them, but who for various reasons have not thought fit to join the interior circle consisting of church-members. On the whole, the plan—which admits of considerable elasticity and variety of application—has been found to answer. Doubtless, it may in some instances work unfortunately, and in some others may be worked unfairly. But, as a general result, men bearing the pastoral office amongst the Congregationalists are, in spiritual tone and purpose, in harmony, as a rule, with those over whose religious movements they have to preside. The tie between pastor and people is commonly a vital one, and, perhaps, taking into account human infirmities of will and temper, the main ends contemplated in the formation of that tie have been found by experience to be more usually attained by the Congregational form of pastoral election than by any other. We think that, in outline, it is conformed both to reason and to Scripture, whilst, in practice, its results are as favourable as might be anticipated.

In theory, and at first glance the election by parishioners of their own spiritual pastor might seem to resemble that of a congregational minister by his church and people. In point of fact, however, there is a wide difference between the two methods. In the one case candidates come forward to woo the constituency; in the other the Church entirely takes the initiative. The last always pre-supposes in those who take part in the choice the existence of some considerable affinity between them of religious conviction and feeling. In the first, such affinity must almost necessarily be, both in extent and in intensity, a matter of chance. A parish is usually made up of extremely heterogeneous materials, and parishioners hold their position quite irrespectively of their spiritual views and preferences. Perhaps a large majority of them in any town or parish are practically indifferent to what may be fitly designated Church interests. Some may believe in Christianity, others may disbelieve, and others again may have never thought about the matter. An election under such circumstances is determined by much the same motives, and is conducted in much the same style of feeling, as that of a Poor Law Guardian, or the members of a Town Council. The constituency is not a competent judge of the qualifications required by the office to which it elects. The choice may or may not be suitable, but it is quite certain that the motives which go to determine the choice are for the most part utterly out of keeping with the object in view.

It is a moot point whether the parishioners of Clerkenwell can devolve their legal responsibilities in regard to this matter upon a committee specially selected by them for the occasion. The office of parish vicar is a legal one, and can only be filled by such proceedings as the law prescribes. There is consequently no flexibility of method, and no moral certainty of compassing by it a really desirable result. The popular element is spoiled by an intermixture with it of the authority of civil law, and hence, that which is really an extremely delicate spiritual obligation is placed by the law of the land in the hands of those who may

be wholly unable or unwilling to treat it as such. It illustrates the essential unfitness of civil authority to deal with affairs which lie within the domain of conscience. Even when its arrangements are based upon a strict regard to popular rights, what is touched by it is almost necessarily marred. The mailed hand cannot grasp even in friendship the tender wrist of maidenhood without inflicting upon it some torture. The theory which is laid hold of by the State for the working out of, we will not say ecclesiastical, but religious ends, even if sound in itself, cannot but come to grief, under such manipulation. The entire set of motives quickened by it are alien to spiritual feeling. The subject, however, is one of much broader interest than any prospective issue of the Clerkenwell election, whatever that may be, but even that may be fitly adduced as evidence that "the things of Caesar" are not suitable instruments for promoting "the things of God."

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

(From the *Congregationalist* for September).

The question about the place of the Bible in public schools, which we are fighting in England, is also being fought out in America. It is possible that some Non-conformists, who have not yielded to the reasoning of their English brethren, may derive some advantage from reading the following article by the Rev. John Monteith, which recently appeared in the *New York Independent*:

In seeking to maintain the union of religious observance with the public schools, the purposes and tactics of Protestant and Catholic sectarians widely differ. By insisting upon the necessary connection of religious and intellectual instruction, and by claiming the utter "godlessness" of the public schools, even when the Bible of the Protestants is read, Catholics do not purpose so much the introduction of their form of religion into the public schools as the diversion of the public school funds to the partial support of their own Church schools. The Catholic strategy, therefore, is employed, for the most part, upon legislative action.

About five years since the Catholic influence introduced a bill into the Lower House of the Missouri Legislature, looking to a distribution of a portion of the public school fund to the maintenance of sectarian schools. The proposition prevailed by a large vote. The measure was supported by a considerable number of Protestants, who, at the time when it was pending, knew nothing of its real origin or intent, and who did not reflect upon its consequences. When, however, the precise nature of the scheme became known, the vote by which the bill passed was promptly reconsidered by a decided majority. This attempt on the part of Church interests to secure a grip upon the school fund led to the submission to the popular suffrage of an amendment to our constitution, which amendment is now a part of the organic law. The new section says: "Neither the general assembly nor any county, city, town, township, school district, or other municipal corporation shall ever make any appropriation or pay from any public fund whatever anything in aid of any creed, church, or sectarian purpose, or to help, support, or sustain any school, academy, seminary, college, university, or other institution of learning, controlled by any creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by state, county, city, town, or such public corporation for any creed, church, or sectarian purposes whatever." Around this constitutional provision in the convention now assembled a new interest will undoubtedly gather.

It would be unfair to attribute the disposition to secure State aid for sectarian schools to Catholics alone. There are Protestant zealots who would equally desire such a provision, but who are deterred from attempting legislative action in their

own behalf by the fact that such an endeavour, if successful, would accomplish too much even for them. Protestant tactics are discovered mainly in covert efforts to secure the control of prominent schools by influencing the composition of their boards of management or instruction; by attempts to effect the repeal of those statutes that forbid the presidents or professors of our higher State institutions to preach or exercise the functions of a minister of the Gospel; and, where the Bible question has been agitated, by inviting the aid of a local Bible society in a public presentation of a copy of the Scriptures to the head of the school, with accompanying instructions as to its daily use.

One of the two sorts of strategy, that of the Catholic, is unquestionably to be preferred, as being the more open, manly, and honest.

The purposes of the two parties of sectarian educationists may be clearly defined and stated. The object of the Catholics is to secure the public school fund to the support of their parochial schools; the object of the Protestants is to maintain a recognition of Protestant religion in the public schools. There is scarcely a point of common interest between these two parties. Both claim that education without religious instruction is fraught with danger; but they are widely asunder in their notions as to what is the appropriate means for religious instruction. Neither party believes in the doctrine that what is sause for the goose is sause for the gander. Protestants regard the Catholic Bible as a Catholic text-book, and Catholics insist that the Protestant Bible is a Protestant text-book. In this view both are undoubtedly correct. Neither of them is willing to admit that the mode proposed by the other embraces proper religious teaching. Indeed, when pressed to a choice between the religious instruction of their opponents and the absence of all religious exercises, they invariably prefer the latter.

Under the Protestant demand actual religious instruction is simply impossible. When the proposed religious exercise has simmered away to a point so generic as to meet the approval of the different denominations, their remains a most insignificant residuum. It must be conducted by a person either so careful or so careless as to avoid the slightest infringement upon the borders of denominational peculiarities. By directing their course between the naked parallels of simple prayer and the reading of the Bible without note or comment, they hope to avoid the reefs of denominational prejudice. With all this care, they meet with an occasional disaster. The restricted religious services, although devoid of any system of religious instruction, become the occasion for the inculcation of sectarian doctrine, and even of heresy. Religious parents have complained that the teacher, by his prayers and his peculiar selection and emphasis of Scripture, taught Methodist, or Baptist, or Campbellite doctrine. The most importunate entreaty to have all religious exercises in school suppressed has come from orthodox parents, who claimed that the teacher, a disciple of Theodore Parker, insinuated the worst kind of heresy, though abstaining from all original comment. He confined himself to a daily excerpt from the Bible, and a brief prayer. The conduct of the Protestant sectarians in the management of this controversy shows very clearly what they do not include in their demand for religious instruction in the public schools. They do not intend that there shall be regular tasks and recitations in religious doctrine. They do not include religious services flavoured with the Unitarian or Liberal religion. They do not suffer the Bible that reads *do penance*, instead of *repent ye*. They do not permit the Bible that substitutes "John the Immerser" for John the Baptist. If Bishop Ryan should on some public occasion present to a State normal school a copy of the Douay Bible, with a solemn injunction to have it used for daily devotion or instruction, does anybody suppose that the Protestants' sensibility would be tranquil?

The Catholic demand contemplates a religious instruction far less vaporous and shadowy. This demand is not satisfied with a mere recognition of Catholic Christianity by the reading of the Douay Bible. It does not have reference to a short opening exercise, conducted before seats vacant by tardiness, or directed to shivering boys blowing their icy fingers. When the Catholic speaks of religious instruction in this connection, he means instruction in the religion of the Catholic Church in the form of lesson and recitation: he means line upon line, and precept upon precept, of the doctrine of the Church. As firmly as he believes that his Church is the only authorised Church, does he hold that the youth of the country are reared in godlessness or heresy unless instructed in the doctrine of this faith.

In view of the positions maintained by these two contestants, the advocate of secular instruction claims that the observance of religious teaching or religious service in the public schools is impossible. These two great wings of Christianity cannot move in harmony. They are at variance in regard to the substance of religious teaching. If they cannot agree upon a common teaching and a common Bible in their churches, can they expect to harmonise their views in the schoolroom? And if these professed supporters of Christianity cannot be united upon the basis of one Bible, how can they expect to enjoy a religious fraternity with that vast host of taxpaying citizens that professes no sympathy with the religion of either Protestant or Catholic? The public school system emanates from and is

controlled by the people as taxpayers. In the midst of the greatest diversity of view, can the lines of taxpaying control and religious control be made to run parallel or to coincide? This is a problem in political geometry which, the secularist thinks, solves itself by its simple statement.

In the public schools, if the Bible is read or religious teaching conducted, these exercises are permitted by the sufferance of any class of taxpayers, all of whom have a right to demand their exclusion.

If, now, good Christian people are exercised over the want of daily religious instruction for the youth of the country, we may appropriately say to them: Trim the fires on the altars of your homes; inhabit your huge piles of consecrated brick and mortar with a daily life and activity; revive the order of catechumens, if necessary; but leave the grand system of State schools, without the introduction of any divisive influence, to perform its legitimate work of building up a united citizenship upon the basis of a free and common intelligence.

die with shame before they can get home; while a third, denouncing the trip as an act of the most infamous insolence, treats the excursionist devotees as little short of traitors, and solicits the French Government to detain them by force and make Gauls of them. Most journals, however, seem to think that the unprecedented proceedings will teach the French that a party capable of such a step can be neither numerically large nor in the possession of any authority or influence in the country which has the misfortune to own them."

Frenchmen are by no means universally elated at the prospect of the German pilgrimages to Lourdes on September 10 and following days, notwithstanding the special benediction which has been given by the Pope to the enterprise. The banner which the pilgrims are to carry represents the Virgin, with the two patron saints of Germany (St. Boniface and St. Elizabeth), and the inscription is—*"Beatam me dicent omnes generationes."* The Catholics of Germany implore, O Immaculate Virgin, your maternal protection for the Church and Fatherland. *"Regina pacis ora pro nobis."* The *Moniteur* says:—“We avow that we do not willingly accustom ourselves to see Germans come to pray in France for their country, which is, it seems to us, infinitely more flourishing than our own.”

A semi-official French note states there are reasons for hoping that, in view of the desire unanimously displayed by French public opinion, the German Catholics will abandon their pilgrimage to Lourdes. In any case it is certain that they will not be allowed to travel on French with any more ostentation than will be allowed on German soil.

Even if the pilgrimage is persisted in, the demonstration in the church of Notre Dame des Victoires at Paris will be given up, and the pilgrims will proceed by the Girdle Railway from the Northern Company's terminus to the Orleans station. The banner, after having been exhibited in the room engaged by the pilgrims at the hotel attached to the terminus, will be rolled up again for conveyance to the Orleans line, and admission to the room will be strictly confined to pilgrims. French clerical papers recommend that the pilgrimage should be abandoned, and the *Bien Public*—M. Thiers' organ—says to the pilgrims, “In Heaven's name pray as much as you like and how you like, but in the name of politics pray elsewhere than here.”

The Bishop of Mayence has informed the people of his diocese that the 2nd of September, the anniversary of the battle of Sedan, can be in the eyes of the Roman Catholic Church only a day of mourning and humiliation.

The *Bien Public* of Ghent, the organ of the Belgian bishops, praises the French Government for preventing the public sale of Mr. Gladstone's religious pamphlets. It declares them to be “a libel on the Catholic religion,” and “a base and abject insult to Pius IX.”

The Pope has agreed to a plan suggested by the Jesuits of bringing about a grand Catholic Congress during the coming autumn. The object of the proposed meeting is to create throughout Europe a great Catholic agitation which would prove highly useful to the Catholic cause should the Pope's conjectures concerning the ultimate result of the Herzegovina insurrection be realised. The congress will probably be held in one of the northern towns of France, and circulars to that effect are already being forwarded to the most important leaders of the Catholic party in France, Spain, Italy, Bavaria, and Ireland.

A Catholic Congress has been sitting at Poitiers, and another has been opened at Rheims. At the former the unlimited liberty of the press was condemned, and Catholics were blamed for not supporting their own organs, and for taking in other papers on the pretext of wishing to see what they said. At this gathering it has been seriously proposed that religious France should return to the state of things which existed before the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. Far from deprecating these preposterous suggestions, which are likely to do the cause of religion more harm than good, clever prelates like the Bishop of Orleans encourage them, and ask that civil marriage may be abolished, and replaced by the religious ceremony. Now this would be the most serious victory the French Church could gain. According to French law the civil marriage is the only legal rite, and in the eyes of all Frenchmen to destroy this would be to acknowledge the control of the priest over the law—a superiority which few are disposed to admit. To venture on the suggestion of such a reform may be considered a certain sign that the Vatican hopes to make of France its chief bulwark.

For the vacant vicarage of St. Mary Elms, Ipswich, of the gross value of 80*l.* and a parsonage, there are no fewer than forty-seven candidates. The parishioners are the patrons, and selected six of the candidates on Thursday, from whom choice will be made.

THE PROPOSED HALIFAX BISHOPRIC.—Mr. Francis S. Powell states in a letter to the *Guardian* that he has failed in inducing Mr. Disraeli to use the opportunity offered by the vacancy in the living of Halifax to create a bishopric much wanted in the West Riding of Yorkshire. Without any public appeal, 22,000*l.* had been obtained towards the endowment; but further proceedings are stopped by an absolute and final refusal from the Prime Minister.

ANOTHER TOMBSTONE CASE.—Another dispute has arisen in reference to the erection of a tombstone in a parish churchyard. In the parish of

Horsmonden, near Staplehurst, there is a stone ready for erection in the churchyard, and the gentleman who had it prepared was anxious to have it placed over his sister's grave, but as he has no sympathy with Ritualism, he chose a stone of the form which has been common in English churchyards for centuries. The Rev. H. F. Smith-Mariott, the rector, saw it and refused absolutely to have so "hideous" a stone erected in his churchyard, remarking that all stones placed there must have upon them a cross. The matter is at present under consideration, and will probably result in an appeal to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

THE LAW RESPECTING OATHS.—At the Salford Hundred Quarter Sessions, Mr. W. H. Higgins, Q.C., presiding, the following conversation took place:—Mr. Samuel Alexander, a surgeon practising at Oldham, who was called as a witness in a wounding case, stated, on entering the witness box, that he did not object to take an oath, but he did object to kiss the book. Mr. Wilson (clerk): Why? Witness: I am a Scotch Presbyterian. Mr. Wilson: Have you a conscientious objection to kissing the book? Witness: I have; and by the Statute 1 and 2 Vic. cap. 105, Presbyterians are specially exempted from kissing the book, or indeed any other ceremony. The Chairman: I must say that this case is something new to me. Let me see the statute the gentleman refers to—1 and 2 Vic. cap. 105. The statute was brought into court and read. It decreed that it was optional with a juror, witness, or other person take an oath in such form as he considered binding upon his conscience. The Chairman (after reading the clause) said to witness: I do not think you are wrong, but I don't see what objection you can have to kiss the book. Still, you object to the ceremony? Witness: I do. Mr. Alexander then took the usual oath, with the exception of kissing the book.

A CLERICAL APPLICANT FOR A SPIRIT LICENCE.—A meeting of ratepayers was held at Wigan on Tuesday to petition the magistrates against granting any more licences. The Rev. Philip Hains, vicar of St. George's, occupied the chair, and commented strongly on the fact that the rector of Wigan (the Rev. and Hon. G. J. Bridgeman) was an applicant, through his son, the Rev. O. R. Bridgeman, curate of Tarporley, Cheshire, for a licence to sell intoxicating liquors in an hotel proposed to be built on ground belonging to the rector. Mr. Hains said: I do not think the curate of Tarporley has had any complicity in this application. It is not the gentleman who has lately taken holy orders who has made this application, but our own Bridgeman, who is a very great man. He is rector of Wigan, rural dean, honorary canon of Chester Cathedral, chaplain-in-ordinary to the Queen, brother to the Earl of Bradford, the Master of the Horse, and, above all, president of the Wigan branch of the Church Temperance Society. (Laughter.) In the name of religion, I protest against a minister of religion applying for a spirit licence. In the name of the Church of England, I protest against her altars being desecrated by a licensed victualler ministering at them. The application was refused at the licensing session on Wednesday.

MR. JAMES BOYD, MANCHESTER.—The Executive Committee of the Manchester Nonconformist Association have passed the following special resolution:—“The committee resolve to place on record their deep sense of the loss sustained by this association through the death of their treasurer, Mr. James Boyd. In him the Manchester Nonconformist Association possessed an active and earnest member, who, by his enthusiasm at its initiation, and by his tenacity of purpose in the latter history of the association, contributed in a marked degree to the success which it has accomplished. The steadfastness with which he adhered to the irksome duty of the association's treasuryship, and the time which he devoted to this task, fully evinced the vigour of the high principles by which he was actuated, and the value which, as a Christian and a citizen, he attached to the principle of religious equality and the freedom of religious life and opinion from State privilege or control. While the committee rejoice to be able to record their sense of Mr. Boyd's devotion to their particular principles, they are deeply conscious that his sympathies extended over a far wider range, and that he will be mourned in Manchester as the departed supporter of every philanthropic and Christian movement of an unsectarian character in the city. They feel that they as a committee have lost a wise adviser, the city of Manchester a self-sacrificing citizen, and Mr. Boyd's family a warm-hearted and loving head.”

THE VICAR'S RATE AT HALIFAX.—**SALE OF GOODS.**—On Thursday last some goods which had been seized for the rate—a piece of cloth, a rocking-chair, and a looking-glass—were to be sold by auction in the Market Hall. During the day the town was placarded, “Wanted, an auctioneer who has lost all self-respect, to sell the poor man's goods for the support of the rich man's church.” Hundreds of working men left work to attend, and at the hour fixed the hall was crowded. The auctioneer was greeted with hootings, yelling, and other unmistakeable signs of disfavour. He attempted to address the crowd, but his voice was drowned by their howling. The articles were knocked down in dumb show for about 30s., less than a fourth of their value. The amount will not suffice to pay the two rates and costs. An ugly rush was then made for the auctioneer and the man who distrained, and but for the police, who kept back the surging mob while they took refuge in an

hotel, they would have been roughly handled. It is said that the sale is illegal, and ought to have taken place in another township, but that the authorities dared not hold it there. Legal notice has been served in the proper quarter, requiring particulars of the distraints, and also intimating that damages will be claimed for irregularities. It is stated that the board of guardians have refused to pay the rate. One remarkable phenomenon is mentioned with reference to this discreditable affair. The auctioneer, it is stated, when offering the goods for sale, felt his position so acutely that he “blushed.” This is, we believe, (says the *Pall Mall Gazette*) the first instance on record of an auctioneer blushing.

MONSIGNOR CAPEL AND THE OLD CATHOLICS.—

Preaching at St. Alexander's, Bootle, Liverpool, on Sunday night, Monsignor Capel alluded to the Bonn Conference. He said that, to create a unity of Christian sections there must be a reception of one message, and a submission to one authority. Whom did its members represent? was the first question suggested by the conference. It might fairly be said that the Greek bishops and the theologians represented the synods of their own countries, and had a clear idea of their belief; but would the Archbishops of Canterbury and York acknowledge the two men who were present on behalf of the Church of England as true expositors of the doctrines of the communion? Nowadays it would be difficult to find a real representative of the Church of England. The Broad Churchman said the section embodied the intellectual portion; the Evangelicals repudiated the Broad party, insisting that their Low-Churchism formed the inner working of the communion; and the High-Churchman raised his voice against both, declaring that he alone was the true expositor of rubrics, canons, and constitution. Thus, those from England attended the conference in their private capacity, and could not, from the nature of the case, be expositors of the doctrines of the Church in whose name they went. The members of the conference were on the horns of a dilemma, and if they, being fallible, made a mistake, how could they better the position of their churches? It was admitted that their intentions were good, but a conference assembled under such circumstances as theirs must fail in its effort to bring about unity.

IRISH NATIONALISTS AND ULTRAMONTANES.—The Dublin *Nation* newspaper is exceedingly angry with the Roman clerical organ the *Voce della Verita*, for the bitter and incorrect version it has given of the O'Connell Festival disturbances in Dublin. The “Voice of Truth” has attributed the scenes at the banquet and in Sackville-street to a conspiracy of Continental Liberals, and speaks of Mr. O'Connell Power, M.P., as the “Petrucelli” and Mr. A. M. Sullivan, M.P., as the “Sonzogno” of Ireland. The *Nation*, dealing with this attack, declares that the Catholic press of the Continent has been the cause of the ruin of the Holy See, and adds that the clerical Roman press is in the habit of calumniating Ireland and Irishmen. This is not (says the *Nation*) the first nor the fortieth instance of like conduct on the part of the Catholic press of Rome about Ireland. When Mr. Gladstone first introduced his dreadful Coercion Bill the *Osservatore Romano* undertook to explain that this was a benevolent effort of the good Signor Gladstone to repress the frightful crimes rife in Ireland. Some of the Irish Zouaves wrote home to the gentleman who is, according to the *Voce*, “the Sonzogno of Ireland,” entreating him to forward, for insertion in the *Osservatore Romano*, a letter correcting those absurd and insulting misrepresentations. He complied. The Irish Pontifical Zouaves carried the letter to the editor, and waited for weeks and for months, but neither letter nor retraction or explanation ever appeared. Mr. Sullivan, with the special blessing of the Pope upon him, reproves, in turn, the Catholic press of the Continent for being the cause of the “disastrous policy in civil affairs that has left the Catholic Church where it is to-day in many a once-Catholic land.”—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

THE VICARAGE OF CLERKENWELL.—On Monday evening a most tumultuous meeting of the parishioners of Clerkenwell was held in the Parochial Schoolrooms, Amwell-street, for the purpose of electing a vicar in the room of the Rev. Robert Maguire, promoted to the rectory of St. Olave's, Southwark. Mr. Culver, the senior churchwarden, took the chair; but his right to do so was warmly challenged, and a vote was taken on the subject. His chairmanship having been ratified, he said two candidates were before them—the Rev. J. H. Rose and the Rev. W. M. Holderness. Some other gentlemen had expressed their wish to contest the election, but he did not know whether they had made any arrangement for movers or seconds. Whether they had or not, he thought it would make but little difference, as they would have no chance. Mr. Potter proposed and Mr. Phear seconded a resolution affirming that Mr. Rose was a proper person to be vicar. Mr. Beauclerk proposed, and Mr. Griffiths seconded, Mr. Holderness. As there were no other candidates, Mr. Rose attempted to speak, but it was evident they did not intend to hear him, and being unable long to resist the torrent of noise which he had to encounter he sat down. Mr. Holderness next essayed to speak, but the friends of Mr. Rose took their revenge, and would not allow him to say a word. Following the example of Mr. Rose, he sat down. The churchwardens then put the names of the two candidates to the meeting, and amidst terrific uproar it was declared that Mr. Holderness had a

majority. Upon this the friends of Mr. Rose demanded a ballot, which the chairman said would occupy three days, and would terminate on Thursday evening. There were loud cries for election by ballot, but the chairman said he had taken counsel's opinion on the subject, and was unable to depart from the usual course. The meeting broke up in the greatest possible confusion. The poll opened yesterday, and at 8 p.m. the numbers were as follows:—Rose, 1,083; Holderness, 503. There are about 5,000 electors.

Religious and Denominational News.

The Rev. W. Emery, of Southampton, has accepted the pastorate of Turret Green Chapel, Ipswich, and will commence his duties in October.

The Afternoon Lectureship of St. George's-in-the-East has been conferred upon the Rev. Dr. Maurice Davies, the author of “Unorthodox London.”

The Rev. E. Storow, of Rugby, has accepted a unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Congregational Church assembling in Sudeley-street, Brighton.

The Rev. Goodeve Mabbs has resigned the charge of the church at Holymoorside, Chesterfield, after a pastorate of five and a half years, to enter upon the appointment of travelling secretary to the Nottingham Congregational Institute, in accordance with proposals made to him by the committee, and accepted in June last. Mr. Mabbs will reside at Nottingham, and will be open to occasional preaching engagements.

FEMALE PREACHERS.—The Pennsylvania Universalists have lately discussed the question of allowing women to preach in their pulpits, and have finally given them the right. New England Universalism has for some time welcomed women to the pulpit, and, it is said, she is likely now to be a favourite in the denomination everywhere.

MR. NEWMAN HALL'S NEW CHURCH.—The new church, to be known as Christ Church, which is in course of erection for the accommodation of the Rev. Newman Hall, is approaching completion. It is situated at the junction of the Kennington and Westminster-roads, and occupies the ground on which formerly stood the Asylum for Female Orphans, with its large red-brick chapel.

HAVERFORDWEST.—Anniversary services in connection with the Tabernacle here were held on the 22nd, 24th, and 29th August, when sermons were preached by the Revs. L. Bevan, of London; H. Quick, of Bath; and J. H. Lochore, pastor. Liberal collections were made on the occasion, while under the new pastorate this old cause bids fair to regain its former high position among the churches of South Wales.

MESSRS. MOODY AND SANKEY.—Messrs. Moody and Sankey, the Revivalists, arrived at New York on August 14, on board the steamer *Spain*. A number of prominent religious people went down the bay to meet them, and quite a crowd greeted them at the wharf, where there was prayer and the singing of the “Old Hundredth” when they landed, quite an unwonted scene on the docks. They have had pressing invitations to begin work at once in America, but prefer not to do so. They will remain in retirement a few weeks, and not reappear until October.

SELHURST-ROAD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, SOUTH NORWOOD.—This place of worship was reopened on Sunday last (August 29), after having been closed six weeks for extensive repairs and alterations. The ceiling of the church has been entirely reconstructed; the walls have been repaired and coloured a pretty French-grey; the lighting has been rearranged, the two heavy chandeliers being replaced by six ten-light stars; the small pulpit has given place to a spacious, well-carpeted platform with a handsome front of polished wood; a dais of the same material has been fixed all round the walls; and the pews and porch have been repaired, painted, and varnished. The works, which were tendered for, have been completed by Mr. Stride and Mr. Pontis, both of London, at a cost of about 220*l*. The congregations on Sunday last were good. The morning service was conducted by the Rev. James Archer Spurgeon, minister of the West Croydon Baptist Chapel; and the evening service by the Rev. William Clarkson, minister of Trinity Congregational Church, Croydon. The collections in aid of the repair fund amounted to 18*l*, which, with the sum already in hand, leaves a balance of 20*l*. still to be raised. The present minister of the church, the Rev. Elvery Dothie, B.A., has been settled here for two-and-a-half years, during which time the congregation has raised for special and extra purposes not less than eight hundred pounds.

OPEN-AIR MISSION.—The twenty-second report of this organisation has been issued. During the past year twenty-four members were elected, making the total number up to 180. The auxiliaries now number seven, the first of which was commenced eighteen years ago in Southwark, and named the South London Auxiliary. For the help and encouragement of the open-air preachers the committee hold monthly gatherings, at which papers are read and conferences held. There is an average attendance at these of 200 persons. The members of the mission have, in addition to other work, visited fairs, races, executions, reviews, regattas, encampments, fêtes, and demonstrations. Seventy-seven racecourses in different parts of the country have

been visited. The races and fairs numbered 217, making since the formation of the mission a total of 2,000 visits to races, fairs, &c. The number of services held weekly in connection with the mission is 1,000. Interesting reports are given in the annual statement from places in London and the suburbs where meetings have been held. Several stations have been regularly occupied in Hyde Park, Regent's Park, Battersea Park, Finsbury Park, and the heaths and commons about London. In Victoria Park a band of children have attracted large crowds by their singing. At these meetings 600,000 tracts and papers have been circulated. Towards this the Religious Tract Society have made a grant of £100, and the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Pure Literature Society, the Monthly Tract Society, and the Lord's Day Observance Society, besides others, have given efficient help. The committee regret the inadequacy of the funds provided.

HARE-COURT AND STAMFORD HILL.—Dr. RALEIGH GOING TO KENSINGTON.—Most of our Congregational readers will probably recollect that about four years ago, when the fine new church was opened at Stamford-hill, Stoke Newington, an arrangement was made for a somewhat novel association of that place with the mother church of Hare-court, Canonbury. The scheme was, to have two perfectly distinct churches, served by two associated pastors. To this end the church at Hare-court called the Rev. Henry Simon to be co-pastor with Dr. Raleigh, both in Hare-court and Stamford-hill. Each minister was thus pastor in each place, the churches remaining quite independent of each other—the only connection between them of an organic kind being in the ministry. The experiment was looked upon with no little interest by the London churches of the same order, and those who hoped for, and anticipated, success thought they saw in the plan a way out of the difficulty of ordinary co-pastorships. It has now been found desirable by both of the churches to revert to the ordinary Congregational usage of distinct pastorates. The separation, such as it is, has, we understand, been effected with the most complete harmony on both sides. So far as we can learn, the only contention has been which of the two churches should retain the ministrations of the senior pastor. Under these circumstances Dr. Raleigh has thought it to be desirable to leave the officers of both places free to look in other directions for their spiritual leaders; and to make this absolutely necessary, he has, we learn, definitely accepted an invitation to the pastorate of the church at Kensington, of which Dr. Stoughton was for so many years the minister, and from which, it will be remembered, he very lately retired. Should Mr. Simon follow his colleague's example, and also resign his position, there are plenty of churches, we doubt not, that will be glad enough to secure his very able services—for a more profound and instructive teacher it would be difficult to find. Both Dr. Raleigh and Mr. Simon have the high satisfaction of knowing that their four years' association has been effectual in bringing about the main object of the union—namely, the establishment of a new interest of great strength and promise at Stamford-hill.—*Christian World.*

EAST BOLDON, NEAR SUNDERLAND.—On the afternoon of Monday, August 23, Mr. Gourley, M.P., laid the foundation stone of a new chapel at East Boldon, near Sunderland, which is to accommodate about 200 people, and will cost some £400. There were friends present on the occasion from Sunderland, Shields, Newcastle, and other places. After the usual preliminaries the Rev. G. W. Swann, the pastor, presented the gallant colonel with a silver trowel, with which the stone was duly laid. Colonel Gourley, in addressing the assembly, complimented the people of Boldon for the work in which they were engaged, regarding this new building as another stone added to the edifice of Nonconformity, which represented the principles of civil and religious liberty. And though they did not lay the stone with consecrated hands, they believed the church would be consecrated by the Spirit of God, and prove as efficacious for the salvation of souls as though its foundation-stone had been laid by the consecrated hands of a bishop or archbishop. In the sight of God they could all be bishops and ministers if they chose. They differed with their Episcopalian brethren, not on any cardinal point of doctrine, but as to exclusive privileges conceded by the state, and possessing religious liberty themselves, and freedom from State control, they wanted the same thing extended to the Church of England. Nonconformity, he argued, had done great things for religious life both at home and in missionary efforts abroad, and the Church of England now prospered because she had at length adopted their principle of voluntaryism, and applied it to church extension. Indeed, in this respect Dissent was not keeping pace with Episcopalianism, but he hoped that the example set that day by East Boldon would be extensively followed elsewhere. He urged them to set a further example by improving their service of song, a branch of public worship which was far too much neglected by Nonconformists, although the good results which flowed from a due attention to its cultivation was so apparent in the extraordinary success which had attended the evangelistic labours of Messrs. Moody and Sankey. The Rev. G. W. Swann said he was happy to state that they had the sympathy of the rector of the parish, and the collection would be taken in episcopal boxes, the boxes of the mother church of the parish. He had seen the rector that morning, from whom he had

always received courtesy and encouragement, and who expressed his pleasure at seeing such efforts being made in the village. He hoped their new place of worship would be opened free of debt. The Sunday-school scholars, the majority of whom had come provided with little bouquets of cut flowers, gathered from their parents' gardens, then advanced and deposited the flowers and their donations upon the foundation stone, while a collection was made amongst the adults. The total collected at the stone amounted to 297. On the completion of the ceremony connected with the laying of the foundation stone, a public tea-meeting was held in a commodious marquee, which had been erected near the chapel site. Between 300 and 400 persons sat down to tables which were beautifully decorated. After tea a largely attended public meeting was held in the marquee, under the presidency of Mr. A. Common, J.P. After singing and prayer, the chairman congratulated the Congregationalists of East Boldon and the inhabitants generally on the very successful and satisfactory inauguration of the new chapel on which they had entered. About thirteen years ago he had the honour of laying the foundation stone of the present chapel, and he felt glad that since then the Congregationalists had so grown in numbers and strength that they were able to enter on another undertaking, and in it he wished them every success. Mr. Thos. Davison very cheerfully joined the chairman in his congratulation. Addresses were also delivered by the Rev. G. Swann, of Stafford, father of the pastor of the church, the Rev. A. Reid, Tyne Docks, and other gentlemen.

Correspondence.

THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS' UNION.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—The paragraph in last week's *Nonconformist* relative to the above movement must have seemed rather puzzling to such of your readers as are not posted up in the history of the labourers' revolt. Perhaps a few remarks on the subject may be of use by way of elucidation. Mr. Samuel Morley has consented, you inform us, to preside at a special conference of the agricultural unionists, to be held at Oxford next month, to take action in reference to the present crisis in the union.

As there has been no eastern counties lock-out this year, and on all hands an excess of work over men to do it, one naturally asks—Whence the "crisis"? "Wages are steadily advancing, improved cottages are rising up everywhere, the various agents-general of our colonies are offering free passages and fabulous wages to such of the labourers as are not satisfied with their home prospects; what on earth is the meaning of a 'crisis' in reference to such a lucky race of mortals?"

The question is most reasonable. The fact is, there is no longer a case for the English agricultural labourers. The real work of their union is done, and this so-called crisis is simply an illustration of the nursery moral—

Satan finds some mischief still
For idle hands to do.

The world has all at once found out the value of genuine field-workers, and they are everywhere at a premium. Mr. Arch's mission to Canada in 1873 virtually terminated his work. The eagerness with which the labour-starved farmers of Canada caught at the prospect of getting men to till their fields, and thereby converting that which was otherwise worse than useless into a very mine of wealth, has spread to all the other colonies, and hence the enhanced value of our whilome parish encumbrances. Good ploughmen, herdsmen, shepherds, &c., are everywhere masters of the position. The English farmer who has got such, takes good care to keep them. As for "locks out," we shall hear no more of them. It may be safely averred that those Eastern Counties farmers who suicidally quarrelled with their men over a modest demand of thirteen shillings per week last year, have one and all registered a vow—silent but deep—that if they may but be forgiven this once, they'll never do it again. They have been taught this year the value of their men; and, if I am not altogether mistaken in my forecast of the future of the labour market, it won't be many years before they will be only too glad to get a pair of brawny arms and an English labourer's strong and willing heart, for the wage of a pound a week.

Scores of half-starved families whom we have sent from this district to New Zealand, are already on the way to fortune. Remittances come home to the old folks from prosperous sons, and letters are also received telling of purchased houses and lands and money put by, and I know not what besides.

Thus the village agitator's vocation is at an end; and even Joseph Arch's oratory fails to convince Hodge that he is any longer an ill-used individual. True there is a political grievance or two, or the whole thing must inevitably collapse. The delegate can harangue at large on the vast injustice of his wondering audience being denied the privilege of voting for a member of Parliament. But some discretion has to be observed by the orator in his selection of a locality for this line of argument. For instance, in the Parliamentary

borough of Cricklade hereabouts, it would not do to adopt such a theme of discourse. The agent of a Cadogan might perhaps ask awkward questions about the utter indifference of the peasant voters at the last election. In one village alone, out of thirty labourers who had votes, only four took the trouble to record them! It is all very well as a something for paid officials to live upon, but as a grievance it is certainly not felt.

The National Agricultural Labourers' Union is, therefore, really a sort of superfluity in the land. But, unfortunately, all such movements become aggregates of vested interests, and, therefore, cannot afford to die when their work is done. Scores of officials cling to their skirts as babes hang on their mother's breasts. The crisis to which your paragraph refers is purely an affair of the hangers-on of the Union. The common enemy—gaunt want—having disappeared, the Union officials have fallen foul of one another. At the late Birmingham Conference an edifying spectacle was presented to the world. It came out that a secretarial blunder had been made, and some two hundred pounds had to be got together from wealthy patrons to make the balance-sheet square. Mr. Arch expressed himself as most indignant at the blundering, and the *Labourers' Chronicle* took the matter up still more warmly. Advantage was taken of the general rumpus to air other grievances, and also to gratify sundry latent animosities. The upshot of the row was the summary ejection of the treasurer from his office, and the starting of an opposition journal. This of course meant war—and war to the knife; and so it has come to pass that we have had the spectacle week by week of two separate camps of unionists firing red-hot shell into each other's ranks! To cull from the rival journals the epithets hurled at one another would recall Billinggate to your readers. It has been quite a revelation of human hate. The former unhappy objects of unionist vituperation—the farmers—have been quite neglected in the fierce internecine strife.

The object of the Oxford Conference is, I presume, to restore peace to the movement. I wish I could feel sanguine as to Mr. Morley's success. It is impossible for anyone to feel otherwise than glad that so disinterested a champion of human rights has seen his way to inquire into the matter. No Englishman has acquired a greater right to be heard by the field-labourers. At the risk of gross misrepresentation and the loss of political prestige he early espoused the unpopular cause, and placed the munificent sum of £600 at the service of Mr. Arch. Nothing finer has graced the annals of this century; and I venture to think that when the innumerable benefactions of the princely donor to other objects are forgotten, this imperial gift to the struggling serfs of the field will be remembered with ever increasing gratitude and delight.

But what can be done in this most miserable matter of union-disunion? Here money will be powerless, and wisdom, I fear, thrown away. Wholesale injustice has been done to earnest workers in the cause, and no end of wretched spite mutually indulged in.

One result of the Oxford Conference will, I trust, be a determination to discontinue the services of the paid delegates who visit our villages. I have not the pleasure of Mr. Morley's acquaintance, or I would strongly urge him to use his influence to this end. Nothing can be worse than an unnecessary prolongation of irritating agitation. The fierce harangues of the irresponsible functionaries who visit our rural districts are every way undesirable. Frothy, inflammable, and one-sided, their outcome can only be evil, and that continually. Consolidation is the great union want now, and the one lesson to be taught the labourers is self-restraint, and the duty of carefully husbanding their resources. In proportion as this lesson is learnt will the labourers' happiness be secured, and without it no unions can render them permanent help.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
ARTHUR CLAYDEN.
Faringdon, Aug. 30, 1875.

MR. GORDON AT EARLSHEATON.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

DEAR SIR,—I presume your correspondent will put Mr. Berger right as to his letter to you in your last respecting your correspondent's account of my recent appearances at Earlsheaton; but just let me say, with reference to Mr. Berger's allusions to the general question, that I shall be very happy to debate that with him in your columns, if you are so disposed. There is good prospect, I hope, of our meeting on the platform on equal terms; but that need not affect the written controversy, as he has chosen to submit certain statements to you. At the particular time I could not get Mr. Berger to recognise the distinction I had drawn between *tithe in abstract*, as a mode of payment, for which he himself refers us to the age of Melchisedec (and then asks for an Act of Parliament!), and *tithe in the particular case*, as having had no real existence till such and such periods, of which illustrations were given, and to which I spoke; and it was because of this misapprehension that the trouble arose, in addition, I think, to some proposed question by Mr. Berger as to Mr. Miall's position with the Liberation Society. For the rest, I may say that Mr. Berger generally chooses to put questions, though he makes very long statements of them sometimes, and seems to think that

everybody else should do likewise. At the best, in the case of a professional speaker, they are rather to puzzle than enlighten, and beget more smart retorts, which do not tend to edification, if to amusement. God forbid, however, that I should ever speak of a man as Mr. Berger spoke of me, and not allow him, being present, to defend himself! To talk about "questions only" in such a case is to ensure a victory far worse than a defeat—and such was Mr. Berger's. His only consolation may be that it is not an uncommon sort of rectory on Church-Defence platforms.

Yours very truly,
JOHN HENRY GORDON.
Darlington, Aug. 28, 1875.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—Allow me a word on just one point in Mr. Berger's letter of last week. Your Earlsheaton correspondent, of whom he complains, can doubtless easily defend himself, but as I occupied a seat on the platform when Mr. Berger distinguished himself at the close of Mr. Gordon's lecture, I feel it my duty to say that the account of the meeting given by him is calculated to convey false impression. If I say it is an untruthful account I use the word in the same sense in which Mr. Berger says he used it when he applied it to Mr. Gordon's statements. I affirm that Mr. Berger "was allowed ample time at the close of Mr. Gordon's lecture." If more than an hour given to the opposition was not ample time, what is to be said of Mr. Berger's own action the next evening, when after inviting questioners he took care to speak for about two hours, I am told, before one of them had a chance to put a question at all?

Mr. Berger quotes from the *Dewsbury Chronicle*, but does not tell your readers that in so far as the quotation is a true report of what took place, it describes what happened *after* the ample time had been allowed. It describes what happened after there had been a good deal of speaking on the part of the opposition, and when Mr. Berger was doing his best apparently to create disorder. The bills announcing Mr. Gordon's lecture invited not only questions but speeches from the opposition, and at the meeting anyone was at liberty to make a speech as well as to ask questions. So far as the lecturer was concerned he desired that no limit should be assigned to the length of the speeches, but the chairman very properly reserved to himself the right of interfering if men abused the liberty allowed them. Mr. Berger forgets to tell you that the audience was patient until one of his friends, who had enlightened the meeting at intervals by calling out "Bosh," at length proposed a question in such terms as had to be withdrawn, and that even after that incident all was going smoothly and intelligently until Mr. Berger himself attempted to set both the chairman and the audience at defiance.

A clergyman of the Establishment, as one of the nation's ecclesiastical police, ought surely to set an example of order and submission to constituted authority, but if Mr. Berger had aimed at merely creating disorder out of which to make capital for his party, his conduct on the evening in question would have been quite consistent with such an intention.

When Church-defenders are beaten in argument they frequently fall back upon personalities, and Mr. Berger ultimately asked a question about Mr. Miall the relevancy of which to the subject in hand none could see. I did not wonder that then the chairman refused to allow the lecturer to answer any more questions, or the debate to continue.

By this time Mr. Berger and his party had had much more time allowed them than was necessary, in order to its being described as "ample," and certainly very much more time and liberty of speech than the Church defenders either allow or can afford to allow to *Liberationists*.

The meeting was called for half-past seven o'clock, the chairman spoke for not more than two or three minutes, the lecturer was considerably brief—quite a contrast to Mr. Berger on the succeeding night—and it was nearly half-past ten o'clock when we got away from the lecture-room, if my memory serves me well, the last hour and a-half having been devoted to discussion; and yet Mr. Berger complains of its being said that "ample time was allowed."

When he next writes, will Mr. Berger kindly tell us what he considers ample time for himself at a *Liberation* meeting, and also what he thinks is ample time for a *Liberationist* at a Church defence meeting?

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
N. HERBERT SHAW.

Dewsbury, Aug. 30, 1875.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to Mr. Berger's letter in your last, I have simply to say that it is *no fiction, but fact*, that that gentleman was allowed ample time at the close of Mr. Gordon's lecture. Not only did Mr. Berger speak, more, or less, in elucidation of his questions, but if he did not choose to do so at greater length, that was nobody's fault but his own. The point on which he was not allowed *further* (mark) to address the meeting was one of order, as to whether, or not, his question had been put and answered, over and over again, and in this the chairman simply sought to protect the meeting and other questioners. If Mr. Berger had done what

he recognises Mr. Gordon did do the next night—bow to the decision of the chair, however unfair he might have thought it, the particular interlude he refers to would never have taken place. As for the *Dewsbury Chronicle* being "the local paper," this is another mistake of Mr. Berger's. It is *the* Church and Tory paper, if you like; but, otherwise, it is only a local paper, and your readers will judge of its fairness when I assure them that Mr. Gordon's reply to Mr. Berger, even after his gagged presence at Mr. Berger's lecture, was not reported in its columns, as all three meetings were in the *Dewsbury Reporter*. If I had sent you that report, instead of a short summary of the whole proceedings, you would have been tempted to impale Mr. Berger much more unmercifully. When Mr. Berger says, "Here is Mr. Gordon's own admission that he himself was treated as Mr. Berger was, &c.," I am lost in amazement, as Mr. Berger supplies no quotation in the least justifying this—except in Mr. Berger's own mouth, and his chairman's, not Mr. Gordon's! The cases, indeed, could not be analogous, even if the chairman's decisions were the same. Mr. Gordon was not replying to Mr. Berger the first night, but the second night Mr. Berger was replying to Mr. Gordon, and Mr. Gordon was present, and constantly spoken of and at, and yet he was shut up to questions like the general public. As Mr. Gordon said, his position was exceptional, and he asked for exceptional treatment. "No!" said the chairman. "Very well," said Mr. Gordon. "You have your remedy elsewhere," said the chairman. "And be assured I shall take it," said Mr. Gordon, and offered Mr. Berger equal time, as he said so, or on another occasion. We are all hoping that that will yet be brought about. What says Mr. Berger? As for other matters in Mr. Berger's letter, Mr. Gordon is quite able to take care of himself. I have simply to do with his attack on my paragraph.

Yours truly,
YOUR CORRESPONDENT.
Aug. 26, 1875.

AT A HARVEST HOME.

A lovely autumn day, the sunlight coming to us softened through a mild haze that foretells heat, and imparts great wealth of colour to the landscape. We are standing on an elevation in front of a neat chapel; and looking across the gentle valley to the right we see groups of boys scattered in a green sloping meadow, some engaged in this pastime, some in that—trying high-leap, wheel-race, and so on—all active and clearly cheerful. Suddenly they disappear, and before long return and set themselves in regular order in the meadow, when they are joined by others, from various points. They form, altogether, a decently-sized regiment of some five companies, each with its own distinctive banner. With their white jackets they present a very neat and cleanly appearance. Having been duly ranged, they march down the road to their left, preceded by their band. Soon we see in the distance a solitary load of grain approaching—the proverbial "Last Load" of Harvest Home—the horses drawing it gaily bedecked with flowers. This being met by the boys, they return with it to the farmyard, to see it well bestowed, amid cheering. This ceremonial over, they form in marching order again, and make for the chapel where we are standing. It is a very pretty sight. The white garb of the boys glistens in the sunlight, sections of the procession as it winds along being now lost to view, and now again seen through clumps of deep-green foliage; while the band all the time discourses well-known airs. As the detachments come up, they take their places, and then are ushered into the chapel, whither we follow. A very suitable service, with special adaptation to the occasion, precedes an admirable sermon, full of anecdote and practical remark. But what strikes us especially is the heartiness and high quality of the singing. All seem to join in it, and it is such as one seldom hears in ordinary churches. Yet each of these boys, who seem so healthy and so happy—so clean and orderly in every way, has been guilty of some crime, and not a few have been several times convicted. In old days these boys would have been sent to prison, to herd with the old gaol-birds, and there simply to undergo a process of corruption and confirmation in crime. Better times have brought better luck to these, and have sent them to the Reformatory Farm School at Redhill, where we are now, as visitors at the annual Harvest Home. As our readers are perhaps aware, the Philanthropic Society which for nearly a century has devoted itself to the reformation of juvenile criminals, was the first body in this country to adopt and to follow out the family system on the Reformatory farm. There are here five houses, named after their donors—Waterland's, Garsten's, Gurney's, Gladstone's, and Queen's. In each of these there are a father and mother, and

as far as may be, individual disposition is studied and a true family feeling created. There are about 300 boys, of ages from twelve to sixteen or seventeen. It is astonishing how soon the influences of country air, healthy work, cleanliness, and thorough order make themselves felt, very few of the boys giving any trouble, escapes being rare, and whippings, on the whole, exceptional. While each house has its own traditions, a general sentiment is kept alive by school and chapel, and by meetings of the whole body for drill, games, and so on. The daily work is of the nature best adapted to fit the boys for the duties of after life—the bulk being, of course, employed at farm-labour of one sort or another, as it has been found advisable to get as many as possible to emigrate; the relapses in this class being only one-fourth of those who remain at home exposed to all the danger of old associations and to the enticements of old companions. Others are engaged at brickmaking, and blacksmith work; there are, of course, a few in the tailor's shop, and as many in the shoemaker's, and some (these, however, are privileged for their good conduct) are allowed to go alone on errands off the farm.

But on this one day of the year—long looked forward to, and much talked of afterwards—work is forgotten, and all is given up to mirth and rejoicing. The chapel service over, the boys march back to the meadow, and there they have games and run races of all kinds, for small prizes—leaping hurdles, jumping in sacks, and so on, not forgetting that amusing three-legged race which gave the spectators so much to laugh at, as now this couple and now that suddenly fell down flat, and attempted, with many efforts, to make a start again. This lasts for over a couple of hours, and then at a quarter past four, the boys march to Moxon Hall, at the central buildings, to partake of supper. That portion of the proceedings finished, prizes are distributed for skill in agricultural work, for success in trades work, for cleanliness and order, for progress in school, and general good conduct—the gentlemen who present the prizes saying some encouraging things to the boys, and directing now and then a more strictly informational statement to the large gathering of visitors who have assembled. Between the distribution of each batch of prizes, one or other of the Houses sing a song—"Be always up and doing, boys," "The Roast Beef of Old England," "The Union Jack of Old England," "God Bless our Sailor Prince," being especially appreciated. One set of prizes is for the boys' gardens—a piece of ground being attached to each house, and divided out into little blocks, each of which is assigned to a boy. Some of these little gardens are indeed very pretty—one flush of bright colour, and tasteful withal; showing how much little inducements of this kind may do to encourage one of the most innocent, most hopeful and restraining enjoyments that could possibly be stimulated in a youth. And certainly this seems, judging from results, to be the effect of the gardening competition among the boys at Redhill.

These prizes having been given, the Rev. Mr. Walters makes a statement, in the course of which he takes occasion to put the boys upon their honour to keep a clean bill, and to aid the masters as much as they can during the period he must be absent from them on account of ill-health; and Mr. Trevarthen, the secretary, explains how it happens that in the last report the number of escapes and of whippings has been rather greater than for some years past. So the time passes till twilight begins to fall; and then, the boys having sung "God save the Queen," and the blessing having been pronounced, they march to their several homes.

With only one little point were we inclined to find fault, and that was when the preacher for the day drew at the very outset of his sermon rather too strict a distinction between the ministry of the laity and that of the clergy (*who dispense the sacraments*), forgetting for the moment that since Nonconformists and Presbyterians might be present, such statements could only offend.

Reformatory have abundantly proved one thing. However deep the taint, strong associations of another kind brought to bear in early youth may do much to counteract it. The relapses among the boys from Redhill are only some 9 per cent., and amongst these are reckoned some for very trifling offences. But as a boy must qualify for a reformatory by committing some crime, does not experience suggest that society, while supporting such institutions as Redhill still more heartily, should concentrate its energies on finding out some means of getting hold of the children of criminal parents and neglected children before they actually commit crime, so that a home might be provided for them

where they would be taught and trained some craft by which they might live honestly as good citizens. The more thorough working of the Habitual Criminals Act and the Prevention of Crime Act, 1871, might open the way to this, and were it once well done, society would soon find that in such matters "Christian mercy is the true economy." As in the case of reformatories and certified industrial schools, voluntary action might be aided by a State capitation grant.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

The forty-fifth meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science was formally opened at Bristol on Wednesday morning by a meeting of the Council and Organisation Committee there. Colston Hall, where the inaugural address was delivered, seats nearly two thousand five hundred persons. Sir John Hawkshaw, C.E., the president for the year, is the guest of the mayor. Among other distinguished visitors are Lord Houghton, the Earl of Ducie, Lord Aberdare, Earl Bathurst, Mr. S. Morley, M.P., Mr. K. D. Hodgson, M.P., the Hon. A. Kinnaird, M.P., Mr. R. Plunkett, M.P., Mr. Waite, M.P., Mr. S. Marling, M.P., Sir P. Egerton, M.P., Mr. Justice Grove, Sir Henry Rawlinson, Sir W. Thompson, Sir W. Guise, Professor Tyndall, Professor Williamson, Dr. Carpenter, Professor Allman, Mr. Charles Buls, of Brussels, secretary of the League of Education of Belgium; Professor Leon Van der Kindere, of the University of Brussels; Dr. Moffat, the African missionary. On Wednesday the receipts of the association amounted to 1,500*l.*, and the number of tickets disposed of to 1,400. The result is largely in excess of the Belfast meeting last year. The city has subscribed 2,500*l.* towards the expenses of the meeting, and all the arrangements, except that the places for holding the meetings are somewhat scattered, are admirable.

A meeting of the general committee was held in the museum. Dr. Carpenter presided. The report stated that the resolution urging the Government of India to continue the solar observation in India had been submitted to the Government, and a reply had been received from Lord Salisbury intimating that an establishment would be employed at Roorkee during the year 1875-6 to make observations of the sun and satellites. Another resolution requesting the Government to undertake an Arctic expedition had been complied with, and the expedition had already been despatched. Invitations in regard to the holding of the meeting for 1877 have been received from Plymouth and Leeds. The meeting for next year will be held in Glasgow.

A large and brilliant concourse of people assembled in the Colston Hall in the evening for the purpose of hearing Sir John Hawkshaw deliver his presidential address. Professor Tyndall, the outgoing president, occupied the chair, the president elect supporting him on the left.

Professor TYNDALL, in introducing the president for the coming year, characterised Sir John Hawkshaw as a man who was celebrated throughout the world for his practical application to work of the greatest magnitude of some of those sciences which it was the function of the association to foster and advance. "In him," said the professor, "I doubt not you will have a wise and prudent head, a leader not likely to be caught up into atmospheric vortices of speculation about things organic or inorganic, about mind or matter beyond the reach of mind, but one who, struggling Antaeus-like with his subject here to-night, will know how to maintain throughout a refreshing contact with his mother earth." These good-humoured allusions were received with laughter, but there was an added undercurrent of applause when a few moments after the speaker, as if parenthetically, said that last year he and his friends thought it their duty to encounter difficulties rather than avoid them. Then in a few sentences, heartily spoken, Professor Tyndall wished Sir John Hawkshaw not only success, but triumph, and yielded to him the presidential chair amidst cheering.

Sir JOHN HAWKSHAW began by announcing that he should speak of engineering as the profession to which his lifetime had been devoted, and which he might be expected to understand. The president first took a survey of the great works of the ancient world—its pyramids, temples, canals, and works of irrigation—and then, passing rapidly over the middle ages, came to the modern period. After noticing the Dutch drainers of our fens, and next the road-makers of the eighteenth and early part of the nineteenth century, he proceeded to speak of the great progress made of late years in the introduction and improvement of steamships, telegraphs, and railways. On the latter subject Sir John Hawkshaw said:—Railways add enormously to the national wealth. More than twenty-five years ago it was proved to the satisfaction of a committee of the House of Commons, from facts and figures which I then adduced, that the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, of which I was the engineer, and which then formed the principal railway connection between the popular towns of Lancashire and Yorkshire, effected a saving to the public using the railway of more than the whole amount of the dividend which was received by the proprietors. These calculations were based solely on the amount of traffic carried by the railway, and on the difference between the railway rate of charge

and the charges by the modes of conveyance anterior to railways. No credit whatever was taken for the saving of time, though in England pre-eminently time is money. Considering that railway charges on many items have been considerably reduced since that day, it may be safely assumed that the railways in the British Islands now produce, or rather save to the nation, a much larger sum annually than the gross amount of all the dividends payable to the proprietors, without at all taking into account the benefit arising from the saving in time. The benefits under that head defy calculation, and cannot with any accuracy be put into money; but it would not be at all over-estimating this question to say that in time and money the nation gains at least what is equivalent to 10 per cent. on all the capital expended on railways. I do not urge this on the part of railway proprietors, for they did not embark in these undertakings with a view to the national gain, but for the expected profit to themselves. Yet it is as well it should be noted, for railway proprietors appear sometimes by some people to be regarded in the light of public enemies. It follows from these facts that whenever a railway can be made at a cost to yield the ordinary interest of money, it is in the national interest that it should be made. Further, that though its cost might be such as to leave a smaller dividend than that to its proprietors, the loss of wealth to so small a section of the community will be more than supplemented by the national gain, and therefore there may be cases where a Government may wisely contribute in some form to undertakings which, without such aid, would fail to obtain the necessary support. And so some countries—Russia, for instance—to which improved means of transport are of vital importance, have wisely, in my opinion, caused lines to be made which, having regard to their own expenditure and receipts, would be unprofitable works, but in a national point of view are or speedily will be highly advantageous. The Empire of Brazil also, which I have lately visited, is arriving at the conclusion, which I think not an unwise one, that the State can afford, and will be benefited in the end by guaranteeing seven per cent. upon any railway that can of itself be shown to produce a net income of four per cent., on the assumption that the nation will be benefited at least to the extent of the difference. A question more important probably in the eyes of many—safety of railway travelling—may not be inappropriate. At all events, it is well that the elements on which it depends should be clearly understood. It will be thought that longer experience in the management of railways should go to ensure greater safety, but there are other elements of the question which go to counteract this in some degree. The safety of railway travelling depends upon the perfection of the machine in all its parts, including the whole railway, with its movable plant, in that term; it depends also on the nature and quantity of traffic; and, lastly, on human care and attention. With regard to what is human, it may be said that so many of these accidents as arise from the fallibility of men will never be eliminated until the race be improved. The liability to accident will also increase with the speed, and might be reduced by slackening that speed. It increases with the extent and variety of the traffic on the same line. The public, I fear, will rather run the risk than consent to be carried at a slower rate. The increase in extent and variety of traffic is not likely to receive any diminution; on the contrary, it is certain to augment. I should be sorry to say that human care may not do something, and I am not among those who object to appeals through the press and otherwise to railway companies, though sometimes perhaps they may appear in an unreasonable form. I see no harm in men being urged in every way to do their utmost in a matter so vital to many. A question may arise whether, if the railways were in the hands of the Government, they could not be worked with greater safety. Government would not pay their officers better, or perhaps so well as the companies do, and it is doubtful whether they would succeed in attracting to the service abler men. They might do the work with a smaller number of chief officers, for much of the time of the companies' managers is occupied in interneccine disputes. They might handle the traffic more despotically, diminishing the number of trains, or the accommodation afforded by them, or in other ways, to insure more safety; but would the public bear any curtailment of convenience? One thing they could, and perhaps would do. In cases where the traffic is varied, and could more safely be conducted with the aid of relief lines, which hold out no sufficient inducement to the companies to make, the Government, being content with a lower rate of interest, might undertake to make them, though, then comes the question whether, when the whole of this vast machine came to depend for supplies on annual votes of Parliament, money would be forthcoming in greater abundance than it is under the present system. But the consideration of this subject involves other and more difficult questions. Where are the labours of Government to stop? The cares of State which cannot be avoided are already heavy, and will grow heavier every year. Dockyard establishments are trifling to what the railway establishments, which already employ 250,000 men, would be. The assumption of all the railways would bring Government into conflict with every passenger, every trader, every merchant, and every manufacturer. With the railway companies there would be no difficulty; they would sell their undertakings to

any one provided the price was ample. Looking at the vast growth of railway traffic, one measure occurs to me as conducive to the safety of railway passengers, and likely to be demanded some day; it is to construct between important places railways which should carry passengers only or coals only, or be set apart for some special separation of traffic; though there will be some difficulty in accomplishing this. Landowners, through whose property such lines would pass, would probably wish to use such lines for general purposes. Nevertheless, it would have to be tried some day. It would be instructive, were it practicable, to compare the relative proportion of accidents by railways and by the old stage coaches, but no records that I am aware of exist of the latter that would enable such a comparison to be made. It is practicable to make some sort of comparison between the accidents in the earlier days of our own railways and the accidents occurring at a latter date. The Board of Trade have unfortunately abandoned the custom, which they adopted from 1852 to 1859, of returning the passenger mileage, which is given in the returns, and is the proper basis upon which to found the proportion of accidents, and on the number of passengers without any regard to distance travelled, which has altered very much, the average journey per passenger being nearly half of what it was in 1846. It would be erroneous to compare the proportions of accidents to passengers carried in various years, even if the correct number of passengers travelling were given. But a figure is always omitted from the Board of Trade return which makes the proportion of accidents to passengers appear larger than it is; this is the number of journeys performed by season-ticket holders. Some estimate could be made of the journeys of season-ticket holders by dividing the receipts by an estimated average fare, or the companies could make an approximate estimate, and the passenger mileage could be readily obtained by the railway companies from the tickets. These additions would greatly add to the value of the railway returns as statistical documents, and render the deductions made from them correct. Though it has been a work of labour, I have endeavoured to supply these deficiencies, and I believe the results arrived at may be taken as fairly accurate. From the figures so arrived at, it appears the passenger mileage has doubled between 1861 and 1873; and at the rate of increase between 1870 and 1873 it would become double what it was in 1873 in twelve years from that time, namely, in 1885. The number of passengers has doubled between 1864 and 1873, and at the rate of increase between 1870 and 1873 it would become double what it was in 1873 in eleven and a half years, or in 1885. It must, however, be remembered, that the rate of increase since 1870, though very regular for 1871, 1872, 1873, is greater than in previous years, being probably due to the rise of wages and the great development of the third-class traffic, and it would not be safe to assume this rate of increase will continue. Supposing no improvement had been effected in the working of railway traffic, by the interlocking of points, the block system, &c., the increase of accidents should have borne some proportion to the passenger mileage, multiplied by the proportion between the train mileage and the length of line open, as the number of trains passing over the same line of rails would tend to multiply accidents in an increasing proportion, especially where the trains run at different speeds. The number of accidents varies considerably from year to year, but taking two averages of ten years each, it appears that the proportion of deaths of passengers from causes beyond their control to passenger miles travelled in the ten years ending Dec. 31, 1873, was only two-thirds of the same proportion in the ten years ending Dec. 31, 1861; the proportion of all accidents to passengers from causes beyond their own control was one-ninth more in the last ten years than in the earlier, whereas the frequency of trains had increased on the average one-fourth. The limit, however, of considerable improvements in signalling, increased brake power, &c., will probably be reached before long, and the increase of accidents will depend on the increase of traffic, together with the increased frequency of trains. The large growth of railway traffic, which we may assume will double in twenty years, will evidently greatly tax the resources of the railway companies; and unless the present companies increase the number of the lines of way, as some have commenced to do, or new railways are made, the system of expeditious and safe railway travelling will be imperilled. Up to the present time, however, the improvements in regulating the traffic appear to have kept pace with the increase of traffic and of speed, as the slight increase in the proportion of railway accidents to passenger miles is probably chiefly due to a larger number of trifling bruises being reported now than formerly. I believe it was a former President of the Board of Trade who said to an alarmed deputation, who waited upon him on the subject of railway travelling, that he thought he was safer in a railway carriage than anywhere else. If he gave any such opinion, he was not far wrong, as is sufficiently evident when it can be said that there is only one passenger injured in every four million miles travelled, or that, on an average, a person may travel 100,000 miles each year for forty years, and the chances be slightly in his favour of his not receiving the slightest injury. In conclusion, the President said: On the subjects I have chosen you will probably think I have travelled backwards far enough. I have dealt to some

extent with the present. The retrospect, however, may be useful to show what great works were done in former ages. Some things have been better done than in those earlier times, but not all. In what we choose to call the idea we do not surpass the ancients. Poets and painters and sculptors were as great in former times as now; so, probably, were the mathematicians. In what depends on the accumulation of experience, we ought to excel our forerunners. Engineering depends largely on experience; nevertheless, in future times whenever difficulties shall arise or works have to be accomplished for which there is no precedent, he who has to perform the duty may step forth from any of the walks of life, as engineers have not unfrequently hitherto done. The marvellous progress of the last two generations should make everyone cautious of predicting the future. Of engineering works, however, it may be said that their practicability or impracticability is often determined by other elements than the inherent difficulty in the works themselves. Greater works than any yet achieved remain to be accomplished—not perhaps yet awhile. Society may not yet require them; the world could not at present afford to pay for them. The progress of engineering works, if we consider it, and the expenditure upon them, has already in our time been prodigious. One hundred and sixty thousand miles of railway alone, put into figures at 20,000^l. a mile, amounts to 3,200 million pounds sterling; add 400,000 miles of telegraph at 100^l. a mile, and 100 millions more for sea canals, docks, harbours, water and sanitary works constructed in the same period, and we get the enormous sum of 3,340 millions sterling expended in one generation and a half on what may undoubtedly be called useful works. The wealth of nations may be impaired by expenditure on luxuries and war; it cannot be diminished by expenditure on works like these. As to the future, we know we cannot create a force; we can, and no doubt shall, greatly improve the application of those with which we are acquainted. What are called inventions can do no more than this, yet how much every day is being done by new machines and instruments. The telescope extended our vision to distant worlds. The spectroscope has far outstripped that instrument, by extending our powers of analysis to regions as remote. Postal deliveries were and are great and able organisations, but what are they to the telegraph? Need we try to extend our vision into futurity farther? Our present knowledge, compared to what is unknown even in physics, is infinitesimal. We may never discover a new force—yet, who can tell?

The President, notwithstanding he had been imperfectly heard, concluded amidst hearty cheering. The usual vote of thanks was proposed and seconded by Earl DUCIE and Mr. K. HODGSON, M.P.

We subjoin an abstract of a few of the papers read before the sectional meetings of the association:—

PROFESSOR ROLLESTON ON MAN.—The President of the Department of Anthropology on Friday delivered an address to his section. He stated that he had recently visited the Somersetshire caves, and had endeavoured to learn as much as he could of the relics and surroundings of the prehistoric inhabitants of the district. During his excursion he had been impressed by the similarity which its incidents bore to those of the study of anthropology generally. He expressed a hope that the department would be favoured with papers on the ethnology, anthropology, and the future prospects of the Polynesian race. No question could be of greater interest than the possibility of resuscitating the inhabitants of Polynesia from the gradual sliding into extinction which some writers appeared to acquiesce in as the natural fate of such races. He quoted Dr. Gerland to show that the decrease of the Polynesian population was not now going on as fast as it was in the first half of the century; and added that in some localities it had entirely ceased, while in others indigenous population was actually on the increase. From this it was clear that the causes for the disappearance of the native races were now less or no longer in operation. They had adapted themselves more to the influences of civilisation. They were not so amenable as they were formerly to the action of disease—they had become more able to respond to the efforts to raise their mental and moral status; and with the advance of civilisation they had become more able to avail themselves of the remedial agencies which it brought with it. What was mysterious was not civilisation, but the fact that people who were in relation to it did not act up to its behests; not how an epidemic could when introduced amongst helpless Polynesians work havoc, but how it was that epidemics should be allowed to do so here in England from time to time. We were but some four years away from the last smallpox epidemic; and what we saw then in England rendered it a little superfluous to search for recondite causes to account for depopulation in countries without local boards. Turning next to the question of craniology, or craniography, Professor Rolleston admitted the value of the entirety of the physical history of a race, but disputed the value of skull-measuring to the ethnographer. Valuable as a single skull might be as furnishing the missing link in a gradational series, one or two skulls by themselves did not justify us in predicated anything as to their nationality. Nothing could be more rash than to speculate upon the immigration of races upon the casual discovery of a single skull. The largest result which craniometry and cubage

of skulls had attained was the demonstration of the following facts:—First, that the cubical contents of many skulls from the earliest sepulchres from which we had any skulls at all were larger considerably than the average cubical contents of modern European skulls; and secondly that the female skulls of those times did not contrast to that advantage with the skulls of their male contemporaries, which the average female skulls of modern days did when subjected to a similar comparison. He accounted for the large size of the brains of the tenants of prehistoric sepulchres from the fact that they were chiefs selected for their superior energy and ability. The learned professor concluded by pointing to the impossibility and folly of attempting to break abruptly with the past. He did not deny that at times it was possible to give way to certain pressing temptations, to think that we were living in a certainly deteriorated and as surely a deteriorating age, and that it was hopeless and useless to set up or look up to aspirations or ideals. When, for example, we took stock of the avidity with which we had all of us within the last twelve months read the memoirs of a man whom one of his reviewers had called "a high-toned aristocrat," but whom he (Professor Rolleston) would call quite by another set of epithets, they might think that they were not after all so much the better for the 3,000 years which separated them from the time when it was considered foul play for a man to enact the part of a familiar friend, to eat another man's bread, and then to lay wait for him.

THE PROPOSED CHANNEL TUNNEL.—In the Geological Section on Saturday Professor E. Hébert read a paper, "On the Undulations of the Chalk in the North of France, and their probable existence under the Straits of Dover." The learned professor argued that the undulations to which he referred would necessitate a very circuitous route for any tunnel that was projected. The President, Sir John Hawkshaw, at once took part in the discussion upon a question which so intimately concerns him. His ideas, however, were at direct variance with those of M. Hébert. So far as Sir John has ascertained (he explained) there is a very uniform thickness of chalk at the depth at which the tunnel is proposed to be made, so that it will not be necessary to follow any circuitous route. This Sir John demonstrated by a number of clearly and rapidly drawn diagrams of the investigations already made. A thorough knowledge, it appears, has been obtained of the geological positions of the beds between Dover and St. Margaret's Bay on our own coast, and also on the coast of France. Altogether over 500 borings were made, and by these the information ultimately gained was as accurate as it could be. These borings agree with the geological observations of the coast. Thus, taking one thing with another, Sir John Hawkshaw was able to say that he feels tolerably sure that from one side of the Channel to the other there exists a thick belt of chalk, with no outcrop whatever into the sand—a belt, which if not altogether straight, is so far satisfactory that there will be no necessity to make the tunnel a circuitous one. It is sometimes thought that the tunnel will be very close to the bottom of the sea, and there have been many wild alarms propagated upon this theory; but as Sir John now pointed out, it would be sunk at least 250 feet below the bed of the Channel, with a considerable and uniform depth of chalk beneath the boring. Some slight leakage there might be expected, but none that a competent engineer could not easily deal with. In the course of his remarks the president explained that the tunnel will be ventilated by two pneumatic tubes to be worked from the centre, and to suck in the air from each end. Sir John naturally spoke in the utmost confidence of the ultimate success of the scheme, and for the most part the gentlemen who took share in the discussion agreed with him in his conclusions and in his hopes. According to one statement made the deepest part of the Channel between Dover and Calais would not submerge more than half of St. Paul's Cathedral.

A REMARKABLE ABORIGINAL RACE.—In the Anthropological Section on Saturday Mr. B. F. Hartshorne read a paper on the habits and physiology of the Weddas of Ceylon. He said they were a remarkable race of aborigines, who still depended for their means of subsistence upon their bows and arrows, and passed their lives in the vast forests of Ceylon without any dwelling-houses or system of cultivation. There was an entire absence of any flint or stone implements among them, and their state of barbarism was indicated by the practice of producing fire by means of rubbing two sticks together, as well as by their habitual disregard of any sort of ablution. Their intellectual capacity was very slight; they were quite unable to count or to discriminate between colours; but while their moral notions led them to regard theft or lying as an inconceivable wrong, they were devoid of any sentiment of religion, except in so far as that might be inferred from their practice of offering a sacrifice to the spirit of one of their fellows immediately after his decease, their idea of a future state being that they became devils after death. They never laughed, and it was observable that they were the only savage race in existence speaking an Aryan language. Dr. Leitner, of Lahore, gave a vivid description of an ethnological and linguistic tour of discovery which he made through Dardistan, the chief result being to establish the existence of languages contemporaneous with the Sanscrit.

DURATION OF EUROPEAN LIFE IN INDIA.—In the same department Dr. Mouat invited the section to consider the value of European life in India in its

political, social, and economic aspects. According to the Doctor's showing, it seems that within the present century the annual loss of European life in our Indian Empire has steadily decreased from about 60 per 1,000 to an average of 15 or 16, the decrement being still in steady progress. Among 24,500 British officers in Her Majesty's army in India during 1861-70 the death-rate from all causes was somewhat less than 17 per 1,000; the rate amongst corresponding classes in the Madras Presidency in the same period being rather less; the mortality amongst carefully-selected European railway *employees* being roughly estimated at about 10 per 1,000. The figures produced by Dr. Mouat fairly exhibit the balance of tendency to death and disease in the tropics, diseases of the digestive organs here taking the place of failure in the powers of the lungs and chest in Great Britain. Dr. Mouat further proceeded to briefly consider the question of the colonisation of India by an Anglo-Saxon race, such colonisation of the plains being in his view impossible, whilst in the hill tracts a vigorous European population might take root and flourish. On the whole the present aspect of the question was encouraging, the risks of life in India with persons of sound constitution and prudent habits not being much in excess of those in more temperate climates, and hence no national anxiety need be felt in relation to those whom pleasure, profit, or the service of the State took to India for temporary sojourn or even the devotion of a lifetime.

EFFECTS OF HEAT ON THE MOLECULAR STRUCTURE OF STEEL WIRES AND RODS.—Professor W. F. Barrett read a paper on the above subject, in the course of which he said he found if steel of any thickness be heated by any means, that at a certain temperature the wire ceases to expand, although the heat be continuously poured in. During this period also the wire does not increase in temperature. The length of time during which this abnormal condition lasts varies with the thickness of the wire and the rapidity with which it can be heated through. No further change takes place till the heat is cut off. When this is done the wire begins to cool down regularly till it has reached the critical point at which the change took place on heating. Here a second and reverse change occurs. At the moment that the expansion occurs, an actual increase in temperature takes place sufficiently large to cause the wire to glow again with a red hot heat. It is curious that this after-glow had not been noticed long ago, for it is a very conspicuous object in steel wires that have been raised to a white heat and allowed to cool. The learned professor gave further results of his experiments in this direction, and illustrated them by diagrams. Professor Barrett further stated that the after-glow occurred at the moment when the steel regained its magnetic state which it had lost by heating. The coincidence of the phenomena and others detailed by the author led him to entertain a hope that some light might thus be thrown on the molecular structure of the magnet, a subject that has hitherto been a standing enigma of science. Sir W. Thomson remarked that Professor Barrett's discovery of the after-glow and other molecular changes in steel were among the most interesting and remarkable which had been contributed to the physics of magnetism.

EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS.—Very great interest was felt in a discussion on education in the Economic Science Section, where the ladies congregated in great numbers, forming a kind of female parliament. Mrs. Grey read a paper on "The Standard of Education," in the course of which she insisted on the necessity of arriving at a decision as to a standard which should not be for a class, but which should be applicable in a universal sense. She contended that in this country a systematic preparation of the young to use all their powers as human beings was absolutely non-existent. The education of the labouring classes was entirely of modern growth in England, and in spite of the Elementary Education Act, there were many who held that any education beyond the three R's was a dangerous gift to the poor. She pointed out what in her opinion ought to be the standard of education in its three great divisions—physical, intellectual, and moral. Speaking of physical training, she said that bodily exercise should be pursued with a view to secure the arm of a blacksmith and the leg of an opera-dancer, just as in the army a loutish country bumpkin was converted by drill and discipline into the lithe, springy Life Guardsman. In intellectual education their standard must include the balance of the intellectual forces in their due relation to each other. She also urged the importance of fixing a proper standard of moral education, based, of course, upon Christianity. In the discussion which followed Sir Willoughby Jones, Mr. Sopwith, and Lord Aberdare took part. The latter denied that our educational system was deteriorating either physically, intellectually, or morally, although he admitted that, especially in the case of women, it might be carried to excess. He contended that with a population thirty per cent. greater than it was some years ago, crime had diminished fifty per cent. The national morality never stood higher, and the severe judgments now passed upon offenders were simply because the standard was higher. He admitted that part of our literature was frivolous and immoral, but the general literature of the country was incomparably superior to that which was habitually put into the hands of our grandmothers. He thought Mrs. Grey was doing a great amount of good by calling attention to the defects of our educational code, and urging the adoption of a higher standard; for

although there was much to be proud of, there was still much to bewail. Miss Beale urged that the ideal of education should not be show and ostentation, but usefulness. They ought to get rid of the false idea that to be well born necessitated or justified anyone in being idle. Miss Carpenter believed that steps should be taken in the normal schools to fit ladies for the duty of educating the girls of the next generation. Miss Becker defended the girls of the present day from the allegations of frivolity. It was as untrue as it was mischievous. In point of fact, light-heartedness was mistaken for frivolity, and it would be a dull day for society if girls were taught that they must look solemn on every occasion. After some further discussion, a vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. Grey for her paper. Miss Stamp submitted some statistics of free public libraries, and Mr. Preestman read a paper on the industrial position of women, as affected by their exclusion from the suffrage.

THE ANTIQUITY OF MAN.—In the Anthropological Department, Mr. Pengelly, F.G.S., described a number of archaeological discoveries made in Kent's Cavern, an ancient and exclusively limestone cavern, situate about a mile eastward of the harbour of Torquay, and half a mile northward of the shore of Torbay, in South Devonshire. Excavations had been going on for the last twenty years, and the discoveries comprised remains of human beings and of the cave hyena, rhinoceros, grey and brown bears, Irish badger, &c. A number of shaped flint instruments, potsherds, fragments of Samian ware, bone harpoons and bodkins, and a bone pin, apparently used to fasten a skin across the breast of a savage, were also found. That these articles, which he exhibited, were made by man he considered to be a self-evident proposition. The discoveries in the different strata of the cavern tended to prove that as they got back to older and older periods of time, man was found to be more and more rude. As to the bearing of these discoveries on the antiquity of man, a friend had asked him if he considered they proved man to be more than 6,000 years old, and his reply was, "Yes; and if you were to add six other noughts to those figures they would still not be noughty enough." (Laughter.) Professor Rolleston said it did not seem possible for them to escape Mr. Pengelly's conclusions, and pointed out the folly of persons being afraid of the result of such investigations into truth.

THE FATAL COLLISION IN THE SOLENT.

The inquiry into the deaths of Miss Peel and Thomas Stokes, who were drowned on the 18th inst. by the collision between the Alberta and the Mistletoe in the Solent, was continued at Portsmouth on Wednesday and Thursday last week and brought to a close on Friday. The officers on board the royal yachts, including Prince Leiningen and Com. Fullerton, of the Alberta, Lieut. Britton and Com. Sullivan, of the Victoria and Albert, were examined. They all agreed that Captain Welch navigated the Alberta according to rule, and charged the Mistletoe with causing the collision by altering her course. Prince Leiningen said the Alberta was steaming at the rate of one nautical mile in four minutes, and the Mistletoe was about half a mile off when he first noticed her. After the collision the engines were reversed in order to prevent the schooner's broken rigging falling upon the Alberta's forecastle among the Queen's servants. Both the royal yachts got out their boats very quickly, and in a few minutes four large boats and three gigs were on the spot. Several of the witnesses thought that Miss Peel might have been saved if she had jumped into one of the boats when she was asked to do so. Prince Leiningen said if the Mistletoe had not put her helm hard a-port the Alberta would have cleared her. He did not know that the Board of Trade limited the speed of steam vessels in any way. His Serene Highness said he had received a telegram from the Queen authorizing him to read an extract from a private letter from herself. Her Majesty wrote:—"I wish you to say how admirably I thought every one behaved; with what rapidity the boats were lowered and officers and men jumped overboard to save lives; and I believe no one would have been saved otherwise." Further on Her Majesty says:—"It was most sad that, in spite of Commander Fullerton's noble efforts, the other poor young lady could not be saved, and that the poor old man died on board, and one more life was lost." Commander Sullivan said it was difficult when the royal yacht was passing on special occasions with Her Majesty or distinguished foreigners on board, from the uncertain movements of yachts, to navigate the Solent at the speed at which the royal yacht was necessarily obliged to steam. It must be understood at the same time that all precautions were taken to stop the engines and to use other measures to prevent collisions. He said "necessarily," because the vessels were specially built for speed. George Parker, the sailing master of the yacht Moonbeam, offered himself as an independent witness. He said he was looking at the Alberta and Mistletoe for some time before and up to the collision, and he never saw any alteration in the Mistletoe's course from the time he saw her go on the starboard tack until the collision. Being shown the 15th article of the Board of Trade regulations, which orders that steamships shall give way to sailing vessels, witness said that he sailed by these regulations. "Giving way" was going under the stern of a vessel, and starboating her helm would have

brought the Alberta under the stern of the Mistletoe. He did not see the helm of the Alberta starboarded. Had those on board the Alberta kept a good look-out, it would have been perfectly easy to have acted according to Rule 15. He would not, under any circumstances, have got so near the schooner. The Alberta should have starboarded her helm some time before the vessels met. Mr. Heywood being recalled, declared that his course was not altered one iota until he believed that a collision was inevitable.

Mr. Harvey, the coroner, on Friday summed up the evidence. The jury then retired to deliberate, but at a late hour they declared themselves unable to agree, and were consequently bound over to deliver their verdict to the judges at the next assizes. The *Times* states that one of the jurymen publicly announced that the jury were unanimous in their intention of finding a verdict of accidental death in the cases of Miss Peel and Captain Stokes. But they could not agree as to the form which the rider should take respecting the blame attaching to individual officers of the royal yacht and the speed at which the royal yacht is usually driven. It is made clear by the testimony of Mr. Heywood that the Mistletoe was not crowding the Alberta, as many vessels in the Solent do, for the purpose of obtaining for those on board a near view of the Queen. As to whether the Mistletoe changed her course and thus induced the collision, there is an unfortunate conflict between the evidence of Mr. Heywood and that of the officers of the Alberta who were responsible for her navigation when the disaster occurred. But it is plain that the royal yacht was going at the excessive speed of seventeen miles an hour in crowded waters.

The yacht Mistletoe was brought into Portsmouth Harbour on Monday afternoon. An immense number of people assembled to see the wreck towed in. The Mistletoe is stated to be beyond repair. Two clocks on board were found to have stopped at eighteen minutes past six. The hull, which is nearly cut in two, will be sold by auction.

The remains of Miss Annie Peel were interred at Pendlebury on Friday evening, in the presence of a large assemblage of residents in the neighbourhood, to whom the deceased had endeared herself by many good works. Miss Eleanor Peel, who was rescued from the yacht, was present at the funeral, as was also the Rev. Mr. Dewes, brother-in-law of the deceased, with whom she resided, and on the coffin being lowered into the grave the latter was so overpowered by his feelings that he fell into a swoon. It is stated in the *Court Circular* that the Queen sent the Hon. Harriet Phipps and some of the gentlemen of her household to Gairnshiel, to express Her Majesty's sympathy with Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Peel and their relatives on the recent sad occurrence.

The remains of Captain Stokes, the master of the yacht, were interred on Sunday in the parish churchyard, Poole. About forty or fifty of the master mariners, pilots, shipwrights of the town and several hundreds of the inhabitants, joined in the procession. A telegram had previously been received expressive of Her Majesty's sympathy to the widow of Captain Stokes.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

There are now twenty-two vacancies in the French National Assembly.

The Duke of Connaught is at Berlin on a visit to the Crown Prince.

Garibaldi's second wife, the mother of his children Manlio and Clelia, has just died at Caprera. The Italian liberator is exhausted with overwork.

It is estimated that the yield of wine in France in 1875 will amount to 106 millions of hectolitres (twenty-two gallons each). The reports of the state of the vineyards is highly promising.

Herr Sonnemann, the editor of the *Frankfurter Zeitung*, has been imprisoned for refusing to reveal the authorship of certain articles which have appeared in that paper.

The German Government has, according to a *Morning Post* telegram, forwarded a protest to that of Egypt against France claiming the exclusive protectorate over the Catholics of the Orient.

Mr. Plimsoll, M.P., has arrived at Copenhagen to make some inquiries about the loading of Danish vessels. The hon. member has received visits from several of the leading Danish merchants and ship-owners.

Sir Garnet Wolseley is expected to leave Cape-town for England on Sept. 10, his place in Natal being taken by Sir Henry Bulwer. There is great enthusiasm on the frontier of Cape Colony in favour of Earl Carnarvon's despatch.

The responsible manager of the Bonapartist journal *L'Echo de Blois* has been sentenced to ten days' imprisonment, 500 francs fine, and 2,000 francs damages for a libel published in his paper against the Duc d'Aumale.

The French translator of Mr. Gladstone's recent work declares that he duly applied to the Minister of the Interior for the official colportage stamp, and renewed his application on Wednesday. He adds that a pamphlet praising Mr. Gladstone's book has also been prohibited in France.

SHAM DEGREES.—The New York correspondent of the *Morning Post* says the trade of selling collegiate degrees in *absentia* is again flourishing. The supposititious "University of Philadelphia" seems to be doing the largest business in this direction, and to have its agents in various parts of England and on the continent.

REPUBLICAN DIVISIONS IN FRANCE.—M. Naquet has published an acrimonious attack on Gambetta's policy and on the *République Française*, which he accuses of want of candour in giving passages of his speech without the context. M. Gambetta is greatly urged by his personal friends to go and answer Naquet at Troyes, but the Left Centre is still opposed to his making any speech there.

FATAL AUTUMN MANEUVRES.—The Berlin correspondent of the *Daily News* states that cases of death by sickness of soldiers, in consequence of the fatigues of the autumnal manoeuvres, reach an alarming height, in some regiments attaining the proportion of war losses. One company has fifty-four sick in consequence of the fatigues of the manoeuvres. Even the papers most friendly to the Government demand a radical change in the regimental exercises.

THE RUSSIAN ARMY.—The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says:—"The reorganisation of the Russian cavalry, just ordered by the Emperor Alexander, amounts to the permanent mobilisation of some 50,000 horse. In accordance with this important measure, the greater part of the cavalry in European Russia will be always kept on a war footing, and stationed along railway lines, so as to be ready to act at a moment's notice. The measure, which is to be carried out this autumn, is to be immediately followed by the distribution of horse artillery among the fourteen new cavalry divisions."

A LADY DOCTOR.—The need for female physicians in a caste-ridden country like India, and their success, are illustrated by a correspondent of the *Standard*, who writes thus from the Mahomedan State of Hyderabad, in the Deccan:—"In the same street with the Afzal Ganj Hospital, and nearly opposite to it, is one for women only. This is under the direction of an American lady Miss Nancie Monelle, M.D., of New York, who came to India about Christmas, 1873, and practised at first in Oudh, but has been established since the summer of 1874 in Haidarabad. In Oudh the bigotry of one father, at all events, allowed his beautiful daughter to die rather than be touched by a Christian; but here people are wise and more humane. Dr. Monelle has had 500 patients in her first year, and is doing a great and good work." She is the medical attendant of the hareems of the Nizam, and his Premier, Sir Salar Jung.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH is meeting with an enthusiastic reception in Russia. On his arrival at Nishni-Novgorod, on Friday evening week, a deputation from the mercantile community of that important commercial centre waited upon his royal highness at the railway-station, and, in accordance apparently with the custom of the country, presented him with bread and salt as a token of hospitality and a pledge of welcome. The modesty of the offering was set off by the worth of the silver dish on which it was presented, the value of the piece of plate being two thousand roubles. The duke visited the celebrated fair at this place, and was entertained by the mercantile corporation. The health of Queen Victoria having been drunk, Her Majesty was informed of the fact by telegraph, and sent back the following reply:—"Many thanks for your telegram, from which I am gratified to learn that the Nishni-Novgorod Mercantile Corporation have drunk my health. I beg you to thank them very sincerely for their courtesy and to express to them my best wishes for their welfare."

MURDER OF COMMODORE GOODENOUGH IN THE SOUTH SEAS.—Sad news comes to us from New South Wales. Another brave life has been sacrificed because unscrupulous traders have created a deep suspicion of all white men among the Pacific Islanders. Commodore Goodenough, we learn, and two seamen of the Pearl have been slain by poisoned arrows while attempting to revive friendly intercourse with the natives of Santa Cruz, an insular group, lying to the eastward of Northern Australia. The calamity occurred in Carlisle Bay, where the Sandfly was attacked a year ago, and the lamentable incident shows how lively are the apprehensions of tribes who have been subjected to cruel kidnapping by the slavers. The commodore had landed with a boat's crew, had remained ashore a full hour, engaged in the laudable object of smoothing away prejudices, which we cannot say are baseless. Some progress had apparently been made towards a promising result, when, just as the Englishmen were about to retire, a savage fired a poisoned arrow at the commodore. The missile struck him in the left side, and, as the boats shoved off, showers of envenomed weapons fell in the craft, wounding altogether six persons, including Sub-Lieutenant Hawker. Although fatal only to three, the others were not regarded as out of danger when the telegram was despatched from Sydney. Before quitting the anchorage the Pearl sent in her boats and burned the village belonging to the assassins. Years must probably elapse ere the impressions made by lawless mariners, not only upon the tribes who inhabit the Santa Cruz group, but on many remote from them, are effectually removed.

THE CROWN PRINCE OF GERMANY ON PEACE.—The German Emperor was present on Wednesday at the festival dinner of the delegates of the Gustavus Adolphus Association, and made a speech expressive of sympathy with the association and its objects. The chairman (a telegram says) thanked the Emperor, and described the principle of the association to be, "Jesus Christ yesterday, to-day, and for all eternity." The Emperor expressed his hearty concurrence in this principle. The Crown Prince on the same day attended a dinner given at Cologne in connection with the opening of the Hor-

gricultural Exhibition. The prince proposed "The health of the Emperor, whose name," he said, "signifies to us that none but noble thoughts fill his heart, thoughts which aim only at preserving for us the blessings of peace, for the greater welfare and prosperity of the Fatherland and the people. To this idea he devotes himself in all his actions and occupations." Responding to the toast of his health, the Crown Prince said that to his dying day he should not forget the reception which had been accorded to him at Cologne. "This day," he added, "which we have devoted to thoroughly peaceful ideas, during which the lovely image of Golden Peace has inspired all our hearts, we have bade a hearty welcome to the many guests who have come to us from all the countries of Europe for this same purpose—to aid us in the work of peace. Allow me once more to salute the gentlemen who are staying with us as the guests of Cologne. I raise my glass and drink to the welfare of the City of Cologne and the Rhine Province. Long may they flourish!" The Paris correspondent of the *Standard* says that the speech of the Crown Prince on Wednesday, in which he spoke so warmly in favour of peace, and stated that it was the constant object of the Emperor William's policy, has created a very good effect in Paris, and the *Moniteur* believes that it will produce a happy impression throughout Europe.

SPAIN.

The strong fortress of Seo D'Urgel has at length capitulated to the Alfonsists. The surrender took place on the 27th. A special correspondent of the *Daily News* gives the following particulars on the subject:—Eight hundred Carlists, with Lizarraga, have marched out with the honours of war. The Spanish flag flying over the forts was saluted by a discharge of cannon. In the surrendered forts were found 47 cannon, but only two of them were rifled. The bishop is a prisoner in the seminary, not in his palace. The prisoners are going to Barcelona. The loss of the Carlists in killed was fifty and in wounded one hundred during the siege. In the 800 prisoners were included 300 officers. Two Carlist officers with a letter from Dorregaray, who attempted to enter the besieged forts on Thursday, were taken prisoners. After having read the letter, Campos sent it to Lizarraga. The letter said that Dorregaray had received orders from Don Carlos to do all he could to raise the siege, and would do so. He was three hours distant, and Castell would join him. The letter was looked upon as a *ruse de guerre*, to help the besieged to make terms. Campos told the Carlist Commissioners that they might go and see Dorregaray if they wished. Two Carlist officers, taking Lizarraga's message to Dorregaray, returned just as the preliminaries for the surrender were signed. Dorregaray said that Castells and Savalls not joining him he could give no aid. Campos gave two of the officers their liberty in consideration of their honourable conduct in returning when the surrender was clearly inevitable. It seems that there was not a drop of water in the castle, and only two days' supply in the citadel. The surrender was agreed upon at six o'clock on Thursday evening, all hope of outside aid having been abandoned by the besieged. The forts are in a ruinous state. The garrison had to surrender as prisoners of war, but in consideration of the brilliant defence of the forts were allowed to march out with the honours of war, the bands playing. The arms were given up outside, the officers being allowed to retain their swords.

General Jovellar, now that Campos has taken the Seo, considers it unnecessary for him (Jovellar) to remain. He will leave all in Campos' hands, being in perfect accord with him. Jovellar asks the Government permission to return to Madrid. Campos hopes that Jovellar will remain; but, if not, he asks for General Despujol to assist him.

Lizarraga and the Bishop of Urgel have been sent to Puycerda; Montjuich, a fortress near Barcelona, being their ultimate destination. Proceedings of a criminal nature have been instituted against the bishop, and the Government has decided not to interfere with the course of the law.

It is reported that Don Carlos has dismissed Mogrovejo, Valdespara, Honaza, Zilduenda, Younde, and other chiefs from their commands.

A telegram from Santander says that the Ministry are preparing to convocate the Cortes before the autumn sets in. Instructions have already been sent to the provincial governors and authorities to aid the Ministerial authorities. According to a Reuter's telegram, the Council of Ministers has decided to send 12,000 men to Cuba on Sept. 25, and a further contingent of 10,000 in October on board the ship Lopea and other vessels which have already been hired for the purpose.

THE CONVALESCENT HOME AT MARGATE.

The Duke and Duchess of Teck on Monday paid a visit to Margate, the occasion being the opening of a new convalescent home there in connection with the Orphan Working School at Haverstock-hill. The duchess was attended by Lady Georgina Grey, and the special train by which they travelled left Victoria Station at 11.30, in charge of Mr. Mills, the general engineer, and Mr. Vincent Hill, outdoor superintendent. Precisely at 1.13 the train drew up at its destination, and the royal visitors were received by Mr. Joseph Soul, founder of the Home, Lord and Lady Granville, the Mayor of

Margate, and other officials. Passing with some difficulty through the crowd assembled at the station, the royal party proceeded to the institution, in Harold-road, Cliftonville, in open carriages. Although not quite so profusely decorated as it was on the occasion of the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales six weeks ago, Margate still showed by the decorations along the line of route its appreciation of the honour it was receiving. Some shops were closed, and a good deal of enthusiasm was manifested by the crowds assembled along the route. A tent had been erected in the grounds of the Home, and here the opening ceremony was performed. A prayer having been offered by the Rev. G. W. Sicklemore, rural dean, Mr. Soul read an address, from which the following is an extract:—

For the last twenty years it has been the earnest desire of the founder of the Convalescent Home to see such an institution provided where the children of the Orphan Working School and those of the Alexandra Orphanage for Infants might, when failing in health or when suffering from sickness, find the needful change and reap benefit from the invigorating air of this salubrious watering-place, instead of being introduced to the care of strangers. The cost to the charities for the maintenance of the children here will not be greater than if they were at the asylums in London, the only extra expenses incurred being that of the journeying to and from town. The hope is indulged that in a very short time the increasing liberality of the supporters of this benevolent institution will enable the trustees to receive the children gratuitously. Besides answering the above purpose for convalescents from the institutions above named, twenty other children, whose friends could not conveniently receive them during the vacations, might participate in the advantages of a change to the seaside. The liberality of the public has enabled the founder to purchase the freehold land, has given sufficient funds to erect this useful building, and to pay for a large portion of the fittings and furniture. The generosity of friends has been manifested in handsome costly gifts in kind. There is no debt, and this day's contributions will place the home, it is to be expected, in an easy position for some time to come.

The Duchess of Teck, in reply, read the following address:—

To Joseph Soul, Esq.

Sir,—We thank you heartily for the kind welcome you offer us, in behalf of yourself, the inhabitants, and visitors of this town, which has recently given such proof of its loyalty in its enthusiastic reception of the Prince and Princess of Wales. It is with much pleasure that the duke and I have availed ourselves of the opportunity afforded us by the opening of the Convalescent Home for Orphans to come amongst you, and we rejoice that this our first visit to Margate should be associated with the inauguration of so admirable a work of charity, for the success of which the peculiarly healthy air of this place bodes well, and to which under God's blessing we wish all possible prosperity. It is a real satisfaction to us to see the increase of benevolent institutions such as this, and we congratulate you, Sir, warmly on the success that has crowned your labours in so good a cause. Your kind heart has prompted you to devote all your energies during a long period of your life to the care of the helpless orphan; and may you carry with you into the retirement which your failing health compels you to seek the knowledge that you have been a means of good to many hundreds of poor children whose blessing will ever rest upon you! (Loud cheers.)

The building was then declared open, and the duchess and suite made a tour of inspection round the rooms.

At the luncheon Lord Granville presided, having on his right hand the Duchess of Teck and Lady Georgina Grey, and on his left the Duke of Teck and Lady Granville. In proposing the toast of "The Queen," his lordship referred to the sympathetic character of Her Majesty as evidenced in her distress and sorrow over the Solent accident. The toast was heartily honoured, the company singing the National Anthem. Afterwards, when proposing the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Teck, and the rest of the royal family, his lordship referred to the fact that the loyalty of Margate was not affected by the weather. Six weeks ago, when the Heir to the Throne and his consort visited the town, the populace turned out to give them a welcome in spite of the unfavourable elements; and to-day, when the sun was shining and everything bright, they turned out just the same. It was a remarkable thing, exceedingly honourable to these distinguished personages, that the object of both of those visits was the same—the benefit of the most helpless of our kind. (Cheers.) It was not the first time that he had had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Soul, and he begged to say that he endorsed in the strongest manner the language which his highness made use of in alluding to his long services. He could not help thinking that Mr. Soul had himself derived some pleasure from the arduous work which he had set himself so many years. There were many philanthropic institutions carried on with a sense of duty, and of the highest religious feeling, but the objects of which were not so engaging to their sympathy as those of the orphans. He remembered a witty friend of his, a long time dead, who was very indignant at being asked if he was fond of young children, and he said, "You might as well ask if I was fond of grown-up people"—(laughter)—and he supposed that was the case with Mr. Soul; but if he preferred young children to old ones, he remembered a friend of Mr. Bright's once said, when he saw a number of little children playing round him, "What charming children; I wonder where the queer old men come from." (Renewed laughter.) His lordship then referred to the amount of good Mr. Soul must have effected, and spoke of the advantage children, even the offspring of the

rich, must derive from a visit to the seaside. It was, however, he said, very difficult to carry out any great work without the sinews of war, and he thought they should remember that a mite from them might put Mr. Soul and his colleagues in a perfectly comfortable situation. He begged to thank them for the attention they had given him, and to state that it was a great satisfaction to himself and Lady Granville to be present.

Mr. SOUL stated that he required 300*l.* for furniture and other matters; and Mr. KYNGDON (the hon. secretary), having read the list of subscriptions received, the proceedings closed.

The duke and duchess afterwards drove to Walmer with Lord and Lady Granville.

SCHOOL BOARD ITEMS.

THE BIRMINGHAM BOARD SCHOOLS.—On Thursday the successful pupils in connection with the Birmingham Board Schools were presented with prizes at the Town Hall, which was crammed with pupils from four of the board schools. The remainder will receive their prizes on subsequent occasions. In the absence of the mayor, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the deputy mayor occupied the chair, and all parties on the board were represented. The chairman said that from statistics supplied by the clerk, he learned that the Education Act was put in force in Birmingham in 1872, at which time the whole accommodation in schools of all descriptions within the borough was 30,980. At the end of December last year, the accommodation was 42,861, and during the same time the average attendance had increased from 16,000 to 34,000.

A CURIOUS SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION has taken place in the village of Gosbeck, in Suffolk. Instead of five members only one was nominated, Mrs. Attwood, the wife of the vicar. The Act provides that if an insufficient number of persons are elected, those who have been returned should choose enough members, at their own discretion, to make up the complement. So Mrs. Attwood chose another lady of the village, her own husband, and two gentlemen of the parish, and so formed a board of five members, by whom the vicar was elected chairman, and Mrs. Attwood honorary clerk.

THE BURY SCHOOL BOARD.—A curious incident occurred recently at Bury St. Edmunds, where there is no school board. The gas company have been in the habit of subscribing fifteen pounds a year to a local public elementary school fund, and at the last meeting of the shareholders objection was taken to the item, one of the auditors having refused to sanction it. The point was discussed, and the payment was admitted to be illegal. In the end, the meeting by a resolution allowed the sum that had been paid, but agreed that in future no such voluntary subscriptions should be made without the consent of the shareholders. In the course of the discussion the secretary to the company made the assertion that by the gift of 15*l.* in support of voluntary schools the company saved 45*l.*, which they would have to pay in the shape of rates if a school board were formed in the town. We do not know how the secretary arrives at his figures; but it is clear that by this munificent act of charity towards voluntary schools the directors of the Bury St. Edmunds Gas Company are propping up a system which prevents a large number of children in that town from being educated. And that, indeed, if we examine the matter closely, is the result in general of subscriptions towards elementary education in non-school-board districts.—School Board Chronicle.

FATAL COLLISION ON THE MIDLAND RAILWAY.

A collision, causing the loss of five lives and very serious injuries to five others, occurred on the Midland Railway, at Kildwick Station, on Saturday night. As an excursion train, on its return from Morecambe to Bradford, was at Cononley, the station before Kildwick, it was observed that the tail lamps were not alight, and the fact was at once telegraphed to the station-master at Kildwick; but the Scotch express, which passed through Cononley only three minutes after the excursion train, was not stopped. The consequence was that whilst the excursion train was stopping at Kildwick to light the lamps at the end the express dashed into it and smashed two carriages to splinters. Fires were lighted with the wood of the broken carriages, and after a delay of some hours traffic was resumed.

A telegram from Bradford of Monday says:—"Mr. S. Ambler, of Bradford, one of the passengers by the unfortunate train, states that he and another gentleman were sitting in the same compartment with Miss Redman, when suddenly, and without any warning, there was an awful crash. The carriages rocked from side to side, and the woodwork began to crack. Nothing could be seen, and Mr. Ambler thought they were running down an embankment with an engine following them. The carriage floor seemed to open, and one after another the passengers dropped through. In the confusion and darkness nothing very definite is remembered as to what followed, except that on the axle and part of the *débris* of the carriage some of the passengers who had got entangled were carried forward till the train stopped, when they fell, some between the rails, and some into the 'six foot'

adjoining. Mr. Ambler, on recovering consciousness, found himself locked in the arms of his companion Hargreaves, and with a boy's hat in his hand. Without knowing how, he and Hargreaves scrambled from under what was left of the carriage and ran towards the station-master's house. On their return with the railway officers to the scene of the accident the broken wood of the carriage was set on fire, and in the faint light at first the wreck was all that could be seen. The groaning and screaming were such that Mr. Ambler, in his debilitated condition, had once more to go away. He returned shortly after, however. Several of the killed and injured had by this time been got out, and some were laid upon cushions. After a considerable quantity of the wreck had been removed from the latter part of the train Miss Redman was extricated, not then quite dead, but she expired in a few moments in her brother's arms." William Muckel, one of those who were severely injured in the collision, died yesterday morning, his death being the sixth that has resulted from this disaster. He resided at Bradford. The three persons who were removed to the Bradford Infirmary are recovering. The number of the injured continues to multiply. An addition is made daily to the list of those who were slightly bruised, lacerated, or shaken, but who were not actually disabled. The inquest has been adjourned to Tuesday next.

The Midland Railway Company's down mail train from London to Scotland narrowly escaped being wrecked early on Saturday morning. The train was due at Sheffield at 1.40 a.m. In passing through the Ambergate tunnel the guard's van and the Post-office sorting van came into collision with some projecting object and were smashed to pieces. The train fortunately kept the rails, but the occupants of the vans were badly shaken and bruised.

Another accident occurred on Saturday on the Ulster Railway, near Lisburn. Shortly after the Belfast train left Lisburn Station, the driver observed sparks issuing from a wagon at a short distance behind. He stopped the train, and, with the fireman, went to ascertain the cause, and found six hogsheads of whisky on fire in the wagon. On their opening the door the whisky exploded, and the driver was thrown across the platform, and lay for a while insensible. On recovery he saw the fireman lying on his back in the wagon, surrounded by the blazing whisky, and in half-an-hour he died. It was suggested at the inquest that the fireman left the engine during the run from Lurgan to Lisburn for the purpose of stealing whisky out of the casks. A majority of the jury, however, found that he was accidentally burnt.

On Monday morning, when the express train which leaves Scarborough at 8.15 arrived at York at 9.35, it was in the act of shunting a few yards out of the station when another train ran into the middle of it, and damaged five or ten carriages. No lives were lost, but some of the passengers were injured.

THE INSURRECTION IN THE HERZEGOVINA.

Under date August 29, the Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says:—"There can be no longer any doubt that all Northern Bosnia along the Save River is in full rebellion. The fugitives who have sought safety on Austrian soil, and whose number had risen to 8,000 according to the latest accounts, are mostly the wives and children of the rebels, who have deserted their villages and made for the hills. The Herzegovina insurgents have formed a National Government under the direction of Ljubobratich, and are expected to decline the mediatory proposition of the consuls. The steady growth of the rebellion may be inferred from the following passage in the Montenegrine official *Glas Cernagorza*:—'The insurrection is fast assuming formidable dimensions. Symptoms of serious designs multiply. Men are yearning for war, and oily-tongued diplomacy is impotent to prevent them. This time insurrection is sure to result in emancipation. Not the rulers but the nations will decide what is to be done. If rebellion becomes general, Servia and Montenegro will not be idle spectators. Now or never!' The insurgent leaders have been assured by their Montenegrine friends that very shortly all Montenegro will come to their assistance. In Servia military preparations continue. The Belgrade War Office have ordered the arms and accoutrements of the militia, including the surgical apparatus, to be made ready for immediate inspection. The Servian militiamen have been directed to provide themselves with three days' food should they be called out. Provisions are being stored in the fortress of Semendria and other places, and arrangements made to seize all available horses in the country."

A correspondent of the *Cologne Gazette* gives the following rather gloomy picture of Herzegovina proper. He says, "If the whole of Bosnia, with the exception of Sarajevo, which town enjoys peculiar privileges, and with all its feudal appearance has a tinge of civilisation, and by packhorses drives a brisk trade with Ragusa and Belgrade, if the whole of Bosnia is an impoverished, deserted country, sunk into barbarism, the Herzegovina is still more so. The great want of water in the Herzegovina precludes all agricultural pursuits, and beyond some garlic onions and some water-melons (*pasteques*) here and there, some poor maize fields, and ill-trimmed olive trees, I have not been able to detect any useful vegetation in the gardens and fields of the Herzegovina. Even domestic animals are thin, shaggy, and badly fed. The

'Hans' are very few, and afford nothing for man or beast except rancid oil, sour, foul wine, and musty maize flour. These hotels are so filthy and swarming with insects that we generally preferred encamping in open air, even under rain and storm. The few so-called cities of the Herzegovina are wretched *bicoques*, such as Mostar, Nevesinge, Metokia, Linbinje, and Trebinje, by the side of which the smallest little West Prussian country town would appear another Paris. Truly carriageable roads cannot be found in the Herzegovina. What little trade in oil, &c., is done in the country is carried on by means of packhorses. Trebinje, now blockaded by the insurgents, is a horrible small place, containing a few hundred tumble-down buildings, in which 3,000 people manage to protract their wretched existence. Like all larger localities in Bosnia and the Herzegovina, Trebinje formerly had fortifications, but now we only see a half-ruined high wall, with a good many bastions and towers all round the place. The same as with all other establishments in Turkey, everything is decayed and worn out, and there is no sign of conservancy or repair. Whilst there we noticed half-a-dozen rusty cannon (minus carriages) lying on the glacis; goats were browsing in the moat, and the gates in such a state of rottenness that they could no longer be closed. A light Prussian field battery would easily, and in a few minutes, reduce the fortress of Trebinje into a heap of rubbish. But the Herzegovinians have no artillery yet, and thus even a small garrison may keep them at bay. The whole war, in fact, for want of roads and artillery, will resolve itself into guerilla fighting. In this kind of warfare the Turkish troops, and especially the irregulars, are quite on a par with the rebels, both for endurance and frugality. The Porte will not be able to operate here with more than 15,000 troops, the keep of a larger force being almost impossible, and the transport and commissariat being attended with insurmountable difficulties. Thus the present rising will only lead to a series of bloody combats, fought with the utmost enmity and cruelty, and die out from want of arms, ammunition, and the sinews of war, on the part of the Herzegovinians, unless aided by some European Power, a most improbable conjuncture in the present state of politics."

CAPTAIN WEBB'S FEAT.—SWIMMING ACROSS THE CHANNEL.

Captain Webb, a merchant mate, originally trained in the Conway training-ship, Liverpool, and remarkable for many feats of pluck and prowess in the water, has this (says the *Spectator*) week beaten every swimmer on record, and made himself a name in history. He has swum, without aids or appliances, across the British Channel. Diving into the water from the Admiralty Pier, Dover, at 12.56 p.m. on Tuesday, he swam on steadily through the afternoon and evening, and night and following morning, towards the French coast, and touched the Calais pier at 10.45 a.m. on Wednesday, utterly exhausted, but alive and unhurt! He was, of course, carried away by currents, and is calculated to have swum thirty-two miles; but from first to last he was unassisted, except by occasional doses of stimulant or food, and kept on steadily swimming for twenty-two hours. The weather was fine, and for eighteen hours the sea was calm, but during the last four the waves broke over him, and greatly distressed him by slapping his face and stinging his eyes. A jelly-dish, too, either stung or struck his shoulder, and made him feel faint. He appears to possess unusual power of retaining heat in his system, but the continuous exertion is unprecedented, and upsets all previous calculations of the strain the human frame can endure. He swam at least twelve times as far as Leander or Lord Byron.

Captain Webb took several hours' sleep after the completion of his great swimming feat, and when he awoke in the afternoon had apparently quite recovered from the exhaustion consequent on his prolonged exertions. He returned to Dover by the Castalia on Thursday, and was very warmly received. In the evening, by the invitation of Colonel Watson, he dined with the 24th Regiment in their mess-room at the citadel.

The Mayor of Dover met Captain Webb at the Yacht Club on Friday, and congratulated him on his success. His health was drunk enthusiastically. Captain Webb, in returning thanks, said:—"Mr. Mayor, ladies and gentlemen,—I have to thank you kindly for the cordial reception you have given me to-day, and to assure you that I hope I have deserved it in one way, for I did my swimming affair in an honest English way, and had a very hard task. Towards the last the sea was rather rough, and I got nearly blinded by the spray; but I am glad I was able to finish by walking ashore on Calais sands. I thank you for the reception you have given me to-day." Mr. G. Toms, the pilot who guided Captain Webb in his journey, is of opinion that the total amount of distance covered by Captain Webb, counting the drift way he made, was between fifty and sixty miles. He swam between the two farthest points that could have been selected, and at three o'clock in the morning he was almost as near the land as he was at eight, owing to the action of the tide.

On Saturday, Captain Webb visited Ironbridge, Shropshire, where his father practises as a surgeon. He received a very enthusiastic reception, and the town was decorated in honour of "the champion swimmer of the world." The captain is now in his

twenty-sixth year, and is the son of Mr. Matthew Webb, of Wellington, Salop. He was formerly a pupil in the Mersey school frigate Conway, and subsequently was apprenticed to Messrs. Rathbone Bros. On one occasion, when forming one of the crew of the Cunard steamer Russia, he jumped overboard while the vessel was going at full speed in order to attempt to save a man who had fallen overboard. On that occasion he was presented by the passenger with a purse of 100*l.*, collected among themselves. In addition, he received the medal of the Liverpool Humane Society, the silver medal of the Royal Humane Society, and the first gold Stanhope medal of the same society; the two last being presented to him, in the presence of a distinguished company, at the Freemasons' Tavern, by the Duke of Edinburgh.

Subscriptions have been opened in London and many provincial towns to mark the public appreciation of Captain Webb's courage and endurance. A provisional committee has been formed in the city, of which the secretary is Mr. W. Waddell, of the London Athletic Club, Mansion-house-chambers, 11, Queen Victoria-street. A meeting of subscribers will be held to determine the nature of the testimonial. The Mercantile Marine Service Association of Liverpool are receiving subscriptions for presenting to Captain Webb a token of their appreciation of his Channel exploit. The Mercantile Marine Association has contributed 25*l.* towards a testimonial, and Earl Stanhope, in a letter to the *Times*, offers to contribute 10*l.* towards a public memorial of the captain's "noble exploit." A considerable sum of money has already been subscribed, and Captain Webb is shortly to visit Liverpool, and to present himself on the Stock Exchange, London, where liberal sums have been given. The gallant swimmer is suffering from stiff-neck and pain at the back of the neck, owing to his long exposure to sea water, and Captain Webb will postpone his visit to the City until after his return from Shropshire.

The *British Medical Journal* says:—"The unprecedented exploit of Captain Webb stands almost unrivalled as an instance of human prowess and endurance. It places Captain Boyton's achievement completely in the shade as an exploit, though its practical utility to the species may be much less. It is not merely that Captain Webb is a daring and accomplished swimmer, of unusual power of endurance, as regards sustained muscular efforts, the great question is, by what arrangement or modification of his heat-producing and heat-conserving processes did he manage to sustain his twenty-two hours' immersion? It is notorious that J. B. Johnson's attempt to swim the Channel two years ago ended in complete failure after an hour's immersion, and yet J. B. Johnson is no ordinary swimmer, and stalwart fellow, possessing good powers of endurance. There must exist in Captain Webb's case strong contractile power in the vessels of the skin, by which his body was conserved and his stores of force thus rendered available for muscular effort. Combustion within the body produces heat and mechanical effort, and when the powers are taxed to produce heat, or the temperature falls, muscular efforts fail partially or absolutely. But, though wearied, he fulfilled his task; and if his immersion be followed by pyrexia, then Captain Webb's heat-regulating powers must be regarded as of no ordinary character. How far and to what extent the porpoise oil prevented heat-loss, and so aided in the result, is a factor that can only be appraised when others have tried it, and seen how far it will enable them to undergo the heat-loss of prolonged immersion. That it will have an effect is certain, as in cold regions it is usual to grease the body thoroughly in order to retain its heat. But, admitting all this, there would still appear to be peculiarities in the vaso-motor nerves which made the difference and which has made Captain Webb's achievement *unfairly* accomplished.

OUR LICENSING SYSTEM.

At the annual Ipswich Brewster Sessions last Friday a deputation from the Good Templars presented a petition praying the Bench to reduce the number of licensed houses, to devise more stringent measures to compel the observance of the hours for the sale of intoxicating beverages, especially on Sunday mornings, and to prohibit the sale of coals and vegetables at public-houses on Sunday. They pointed out that there were three hundred licensed houses in Ipswich, one to every five adult males. The Bench promised to give their best consideration to the petition.

At the Sheffield Brewster Sessions a petition signed by fifteen hundred women was presented against granting new licences for the sales of intoxicating liquors, and in favour of diminishing the number of existing licences. The magistrates replied that they would consider each application on its individual merits.

At Leeds a petition signed by nearly 13,000 persons, was presented to the magistrates by a number of ladies, including Mrs. Gott, wife of the vicar, asking them to reduce the number of public-houses, with the view of lessening the temptation to drunkenness, and doing away with much of the crime, pauperism, and other evils which affect the community. The Mayor, in reply, said the publicans were not interested in drunkenness, a man who drank too much being the greatest enemy the innkeeper had. The memorial would have their best consideration, and they would do what was in

their power in the matter. The report of the chief constable showed that during the past year no fewer than 2,173 persons had been charged with intoxication, against 1,733 in the previous year, 1,530 for the year 1872-73, and 1,542 for the year 1871-1872. A great deal of the increase he was afraid arose from higher wages, and shorter hours of labour.

At Cheltenham [there were several applications for new licences, but the granting of these was opposed by Mr. J. W. Gabb, who presented a number of memorials from the clergy and ratepayers, objecting to any extension of the number of public houses. Several clergymen were also in court personally to support this opposition, and the Rev. G. W. Chamberlain earnestly addressed the Bench on their behalf. Mr. Gabb said that the number of licences already in existence represented a proportion of one to every 156 of the population, and he urged that this was far beyond the needs of the community. Superintendent Day was called, and expressed a similar opinion, and also stated his conviction that the Sunday closing of public-houses would be for the general good. The Bench refused to grant any of the licences applied for.

Epitome of News.

The exodus from England of large bodies of agricultural labourers continues. During the past week nearly 1,000 labourers, with their wives and families, left this country for the colonies.

Sir John Arnott has executed a deed of gift vesting in the hands of five trustees the sum of 20,000*l.* for the benefit of the Protestant and Catholic charities of the city of Cork.

A curate who formerly officiated in a Colchester church has commenced an action for wrongful dismissal against his rector, and claims 3,000*l.* damages. A parishioner had written to the rector complaining of the curate's reading as melo-dramatic and serio-comic. The rector showed this letter to the curate, who threatened him with legal proceedings to make him divulge the author, and was consequently dismissed. His salary was 150*l.* a-year.

A fatal explosion occurred on Thursday on board the steamship *Miraud*, of Hull, bound from New-port to Kiel with coals, when eight miles off St. Ives' Head. The fore deck of the steamer was completely blown up; one man who was standing on deck at the time was hurled into the air, and was not seen again, and two other sailors were seriously scalded. Every person on board was injured except the steward. The cause of the explosion was the compression of gas in the fore-hatchway.

A bear escaped from the premises of a wild beast keeper in Whitechapel on Friday night, and after causing the rapid flight of a policeman and some costermongers, it was captured with difficulty, but before any serious mischief had been done.

Mr. Charles Dixon, aged about seventy years, was found dead in bed on Friday morning with his throat cut, at his lodgings in Notting-hill. A servant on going to the deceased's bedroom found the door locked, and on an entrance being effected he was found lying dead. Nothing is known of his friends. There were found upon him 11*l.* in gold, 17*s.* in silver, and 3*d.* in bronze, and some papers relating to a will, and to a Consolidated Three per Cent. annuity for 224*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*

A Shrewsbury publican while digging in his cellar, which is in the centre of the town, struck a vein of mineral, which proved on investigation to be quicksilver. A sample, consisting of nearly sixteen pounds of pure refined quicksilver, is now on exhibition.

A serious case of rattening has occurred at the new military dépôt at Warwick. A brickmaking machine capable of making twenty thousand bricks a day has been broken and rendered comparatively useless.

Accounts are arriving daily at Leicester, the headquarters of the "Magna Charta" associations, of the breaking up of these societies all over the country.

Mr. Whalley, M.P., has written to the honorary secretary of the Magna Charta Association, refusing to become president of that society for the next year, and declining to accept Dr. Kenealy as his political leader.

A man, thirty years of age, a platelayer on the Settle and Carlisle Railway, hanged himself on Friday on a post in a public drying-ground at Carlisle. Before doing so he wrote with a piece of chalk on a neighbouring wall the following message:—"I take the pleasure of writing these few lines, if it will be a warning to all young men, and never live with a mother-in-law. Now I end my miserable life."

It has been decided to dissolve the Amalgamated Association of Miners. All the districts which have been connected with the association are expected to join the new National Union, under Mr. Macdonald, M.P.

The *Times* understands that at the next meeting of the Committee of Joint-Stock Banks it will be proposed that in future, on the occurrence of mercantile failures which involve the banks generally in loss, they shall take the liquidation of the estates into their own hands, appointing their own accountant and solicitor.

The will of the late Mr. Alfred Rooker contains the following charitable bequests:—Western Col-

lege, 200*l.*; London Missionary Society, 100*l.*; Colonial Missionary Society, 100*l.*; South Devon Congregational Association, 50*l.*; Sherwell Chapel Schools, 50*l.*; Sherwell Evangelistic Association, 25*l.*; Plymouth Town Mission, 50*l.*; Congregational Chapel and Schools, Tavistock, 50*l.*; to give effect to unfulfilled promises, 200*l.*

On Thursday evening five boys belonging to Plas Llewellyn School, Rhyl, were surrounded by the tide while bathing, and drowned. Four others were in danger, and are very ill. The lamentable occurrence was witnessed by some of the masters, who did all they could to save the drowning boys.

A shocking accident occurred on Thursday to a pleasure party who had been to visit the Devil's Dyke, near Brighton. Eighteen persons were being conveyed in a two-horse wagonette when the vehicle upset, and the whole party were thrown out and all more or less injured. No one was killed, but some of the injuries received are of a very serious character.

An inquest was held on Thursday on the body of Mr. Murray Gladstone, who was found dead on the seashore near Penmaenmawr. It was stated that Mr. Gladstone was subject to fainting fits, and it was supposed that, having had one of these fits, he was, while in an unconscious state, covered by the tide and drowned. A verdict of "Accidental drowning" was returned.

The Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and other members of the royal family were present at the annual Braemar gathering on Thursday, and witnessed the sports connected with it.

On Friday, which was the anniversary of the birth of the late Prince Consort, the servants and tenants of the Balmoral, Abergeldie, and Birkhall estates met and drank to the memory of his royal highness. The Princess of Wales, Prince Leopold, and the Gentlemen-in-Waiting lunched with the servants and tenants on the occasion.

It is announced that Her Majesty has conveyed, through Sir W. Jenner, expressions of sympathy with Miss Dickinson in respect to the recent railway outrage trial, and has requested that a photograph of Miss Dickinson may be sent to her.

It is also announced that the Queen wrote an earnest letter of condolence to Miss Peel on the day after the fatal collision in the Solent.

In the financial year ended the 31st of March last the Civil List expenditure was 405,963*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.*

Prince Leopold has accepted the presidency of the Oxford branch of the Church of England Temperance Society.

Earl Russell has written the following letter to the *Times*:—"I have been reading my despatch to Sir Henry Bulwer of September, 1861. I have read likewise the appeal made on behalf of Christian Rayahs in your paper of yesterday. I remember many years ago attending a meeting at Lord Fitzwilliam's, in Grosvenor-square, on behalf of the Greek insurgents. I subscribed 50*l.* on behalf of those insurgents. It is too late to call a meeting in London, but I am ready to subscribe 50*l.* on behalf of the insurgents against Turkish misrule."

The *Dublin Evening Post* states that the eldest son of Mr. Butt, Q.C., M.P., has been appointed by the Government to an important and lucrative position in the Civil Service in India.

The Right Hon. Gathorne Hardy arrived at Balmoral Castle on Friday and dined with the Queen and royal family.

The Admiralty have ordered a court of inquiry to be held for the purpose of inquiring into the causes of the collision between the royal yacht Alberta and the schooner yacht Mistletoe. The sittings will be held in private.

The Lord Mayor of Dublin has received from the Pope the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Gregory.

A shocking murder was committed by a lunatic named Fordham, in the Leicester Borough Asylum, on Thursday, the victim being John Smith, one of the attendants. The murderer, who was not considered dangerous, by some means got possession of a carving-knife and plunged it into the unfortunate attendant's side, inflicting injuries from which he died in about an hour. The evidence at the inquest showed that after committing the crime the murderer threw down the knife, exclaiming, "I have had my revenge; they can hang me as soon as they like." A verdict of "Wilful murder" was returned, and the prisoner was committed for trial.

Mr. J. Lewis Farley, writing from the Temple Club, states that a committee is being formed with the view of collecting subscriptions on behalf of "the Christian victims of Turkish misrule in Bosnia and the Herzegovina."

The migration of the hop-pickers into Kent, Surrey, and Sussex, which is calculated to number every season from 28,000 to 38,000 persons, chiefly from London, has already begun.

The Balerno Paper Mills, near Edinburgh, the property of Messrs. J. and W. Durham, were destroyed by fire on Saturday. There was little stock injured, the wings of the building in which it was kept having escaped from the flames. The loss is estimated at from 2,000*l.* to 3,000*l.*

Mr. Gorst, M.P., speaking at a Conservative meeting at Bradford on Saturday, said that there was a difference of opinion between the public and the officials of the Board of Trade in respect to the Merchant Shipping Bill. The Government bill was a Board of Trade bill, and the Government had been compelled to withdraw it because of the difficulty of making it a bill that would satisfy the public. He regretted its withdrawal, but he believed that the temporary measure that had been passed would save many lives during the coming winter.

A statement has been prepared for presentation to the vestry of St. George's-in-the-East, which shows that there are 291 houses in the parish which by reason of want of light, air, ventilation, sanitary conveniences, and other causes are unfit for human habitation, and require to be dealt with under the Artisans', &c., Dwellings Act.

The Rev. D. Silvan Evans, B.D., Rector of Llanymowddy, Merionethshire, has been appointed to the Professorship of Celtic Literature in the University College of Wales.

As a preliminary proceeding to the forthcoming Conference of the National Miners' Association, a large meeting of Cleveland miners was held last Saturday, and a resolution, proposed by Mr. Lloyd Jones, in favour of manhood suffrage, was carried. A motion opposed to the law of entail and primogeniture and the present system of land tenure was moved by Mr. Arch, and carried. Mr. Arch referred to the vast acreage of waste land which could be cultivated and to common land which had been enclosed.

Mr. Joseph Arch addressed a meeting at a fête of the Bromsgrove Nail Forgers' Association on Saturday evening. In proposing a resolution in favour of manhood suffrage, he combated Professor Newman's theory that trades unions had been productive of evil. He denounced Lord Lyttelton for attempting to do away with outdoor relief to the poor, and advised the nail-forgers to pay no attention to busybodies who would try to create dissension in their union. It was his intention to fight to the last all who interfered with the Agricultural Labourers' Union.

Foot-and-mouth disease is greatly on the increase in Lancashire. In the Salford Hundred the increase is about one-fourth of the whole number suffering. In Warwickshire the distemper has assumed alarming proportions, there being 1,745 cases against 800 in the preceding week. In Gloucester the returns show an increase of 1,812 on the week. Eighteen beasts, three sheep, and twenty-two pigs died within a few days. Wiltshire also shows an increase of infected farms. In Dorset 14,000 animals, mostly sheep, are infected.

A labourer named Purcell was charged at the Liverpool Police-court on Friday with having committed a brutal assault on his wife. The poor woman, who was near her confinement, was knocked down by the prisoner during a drunken fit, and kicked in a frightful manner. Finding, after a short time, that she was trying to get up, he resumed his attack with increased fury, and kicked her until she became insensible. The woman's injuries are very serious, and the prisoner was remanded.

About a dozen children are reported to be lying seriously ill at Hatcham from the effects of some poisonous substance picked up by them in the road and eaten under the supposition that it was confectionary. One of the sufferers, a girl of thirteen, has died.

A PICKWICKIAN STORY.—A discovery in the Thames of a cash-box filled with keys made to fit the doors leading to the private apartments at Windsor Castle is said to have led the police to the belief that there has been an intention on the part of some thieves to gain admission to the castle and steal the royal jewels. The box was attached to a string, the other end of which was secured to the branch of a tree, and by the drawing off of the waters of the Thames this branch became visible. Unfortunately for the veracity of this interesting report, the Chief Constable of Bucks writes to the *Times*, and in a few words tells us the simple truth. On the 9th Aug. a tin box was found, and amongst a lot of rusty old keys in it were two which appeared to belong to the castle. So little interest did the discovery excite that the attention of the police was not called to it until the 27th. On Saturday the mysterious bunch of keys, with their ambiguous writing, was shown to the old woman at the 100 steps, who at once claimed them, and stated that they were stolen out of the yard gate about three weeks ago, together with a sheet and a pillow-case, as she believed, by a tramp.

MR. LAING AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.—Mr. Laing, M.P., addressing his constituents at Stromness, said that when they looked back upon the reforms which had been accomplished they could not wonder that the country desired rest before entering upon further measures. On the retirement of Mr. Gladstone, Lord Hartington had been elected as leader. As a Constitutional Whig he preferred him to one of revolutionary principles. He had proved himself a good leader, and had behaved with much tact and good sense. In regard to the Merchant Shipping Bill, Mr. Laing admitted the necessity for Mr. Plimsoll's agitation, but remarked that there was a danger of their trammelling the mercantile marine and driving the trade into the hands of foreigners. Speaking of the relations of Church and State, Mr. Laing said he thought that unless a disruption took place in the English Church, there was at present no likelihood of the question of disestablishment being raised. It was different, however, with Scotland, where, now that patronage had been abolished, there was no reason why one section of Presbyterianism should be endowed and not the others; and he would be most willing to support a well-considered measure which would direct the endowments of the Church of that country to some other purpose, such as national education.

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August, 1875.

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8,

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

** Several communications have reached us too late to be available for our present number.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1875.

SUMMARY.

THE latest reports relative to the outbreak in the south-west of Turkey are, as usual, contradictory. One telegram, for instance, states that the insurrection in Bosnia is more serious than was at first supposed; another, that the malcontents have submitted to the Pasha, and that “Bosnia may be looked upon as pacified.” According to an account from Constantinople all the blockhouses on the Montenegrin frontier are in the hands of the insurgents, and two battalions of Turkish troops in the south of the Herzegovina are surrounded by insurgent forces. On the other hand, reinforcements have reached the Turkish garrison of Trebinje without meeting any resistance, and large bodies of troops were being disembarked to act under the command of Achmed Pasha. The main reliance of the insurgents is upon the co-operation of Servia, which has a considerable military force. There has been a change of Government at Belgrade, and what is called “a Ministry of action” is in power; but its aim is less to take up the cause of its neighbours than to bring about the complete independence of Servia, while the people of that province wish to make common cause with the insurgents across the frontier.

The hopes of a reasonable arrangement with the Porte are considerably dashed by the accession to power at Constantinople as Grand Vizier of Mahmoud Pasha, who is described as “a Turk of the old school, whom the Rayahs regard as a champion of absolute Governments in the regular Pasha style, and who by his very presence in the Cabinet must be expected to render the insurgents desperate.” It appears, however, that the Mediatorial Commission representing respectively the Governments of Austria, Russia, Germany, France, and Italy, is about to meet Servet Pasha, the representative of the Porte, at Mostar, before communicating with the insurgents. We note with satisfaction that our Government hold aloof from this entangling mediation, which does not promise any definite result. The Austrian scheme of thorough administrative reforms in the disaffected provinces would be of no avail unless guaranteed by the great Powers, while the independence of Bosnia and Herzegovina, advocated by Russia, would not only disturb the Slavonic population of Austria, but encourage the insurgents to desperate resistance. Neither of the parties concerned in this dangerous outbreak will be much influenced by Earl Russell’s ill-judged proposal to start a subscription in aid of the

population in arms, which shows that a statesman’s discretion is not always to be measured by the length of his experience.

It may be questioned whether Russia desires a conflagration in the East at the present time. She has her hands full. Her possessions in Asia are a source of chronic anxiety. A rebellion has broken out in the Khanate of Khokand, which has extended to the southern districts of Turkestan, and the malcontents have proclaimed a “holy war” against the infidel. General Kaufmann may triumph over these troublesome tribes, but it is tedious and costly work.

The most remarkable item of domestic news is Captain Webb’sfeat of swimming unaided across the Channel, which entirely eclipses the achievement of Captain Boyton; the most disquieting fact of the week is the rapid spread of the foot-and-mouth disease throughout the English counties, which foreshadows a great rise in the price of meat. We observe with satisfaction that, while Sir Wilfrid Lawson and his Good Templar allies are as active as ever in urging new restrictions on the sale of intoxicating drinks, local opinion in many districts has been brought to bear with great effect upon the licensing magistrates. In several places, under the influence of well-signed memorials, new licences have been refused, and the supervising power of the magistrates has been very stringently exercised. It is something to prevent the increase of facilities for drink, and the present law, as we see, can be applied in this direction with much effect.

The British Association is in session at Bristol. Its meetings have hardly thus far been of average interest, and many of the foremost men of science have not put in an appearance. The president for the year, Sir John Hawkshaw, naturally chose for his opening address the topic with which he is most familiar—engineering—and at the sectional meetings there has been a laudable avoidance of delicate theological questions. It is rarely that at these annual congresses scientific discoveries are announced, but a vast body of facts are submitted to the public at a season when they can secure ready audience. The British Association is an excellent educator. It popularises science, and the reading public who can at leisure con or skip the reports really owe a debt of gratitude to the enthusiasts who during the hot season can go through the ordeal of listening to good, bad, or indifferent papers in crowded rooms.

The searching investigation into the circumstances of the deplorable tragedy in the Solent has come to an end without entirely clearing up the facts, or resulting in a verdict. The jury could not agree upon the propriety of censuring the officers of the royal yacht, and the case will have to come anew before a judge at the assize court. There seems to be no doubt that the officers of the Alberta adhered to the rule of the road at sea, and not much less doubt that the captain of the Mistletoe, in deference to a loyal feeling, departed from it. But the danger of driving a steamer like the royal yacht at the rate of seventeen miles an hour across the narrow and crowded waters of the Solent is universally recognised, and the practice will probably in future be discontinued. Her Majesty, who was the agitated spectator of the catastrophe, has done all that prompt and tender sympathy could do to comfort the survivors and their friends. It is a satisfaction to know that the evidence given entirely exonerates Mr. Heywood from the hasty charge of running across the track of the royal yacht from motives of curiosity.

The capture of the fortress of Seo d’Urgel after a long siege, is a feat of which the Alfonsoist generals may well be proud. It has been followed by desertion from the Carlist ranks, and will liberate a large force to operate more vigorously against them in the field. One of the most characteristic signs that the cause of Don Carlos is waning is the tone of his outside patrons. The chief clerical organ at Rome expresses its opinion “that in consequence of the capitulation of Seo d’Urgel it is possible that Don Carlos may disband his forces with the idea of recommencing the struggle at a more favourable moment,” and the mouthpiece of the Vatican goes on to say that, “considering the general state of affairs in Europe, it almost approves this decision, which, however, would only be a truce; for Carlism is not a mere Spanish dynastic question, but a struggle between Catholicism and revolution—between liberty and Liberal tyranny.” This will be sorry comfort to the Carlists in their desperate extremity.

Sensational news is naturally at a premium during this dull season. A few days ago we were informed that the Pekin Government had behaved in so insolent a manner to Mr. Wade, relative to the proposed inquiry into the murder of Mr. Margary, that he had telegraphed home

for troops to protect Europeans, and the foreign squadrons were concentrating at Chefoo. There was, it seems, an unintentional slight offered to the British Minister, for which a prompt apology was offered. As for the other grave reports, they are not confirmed; Mr. Wade being at Tientsin, and likely to stay there “for the present.”—Porto Rico, or rather Reuter’s Agency, has also furnished a *canard*. The captain-general of that Spanish island is said to have forcibly taken a man from a British mail-steamer in the port of St. John’s, and forthwith shot him; and some of the papers have been speculating on another Trent affair. It seems that the authorities did demand the surrender of a military deserter who had defrauded the public funds, and that the captain of the Eider allowed the man to be removed when it was explained to him that all private vessels are amenable to local laws, and that the prisoner would be tried by a competent tribunal.

THE SLAVIC INSURRECTION AGAINST THE PORTE.

THE insurrection in the Herzegovina and Bosnia has rather increased in intensity since our last. It is being very irregularly, but somewhat formidably developed. It can hardly be said to have covered new territory, although it has undoubtedly communicated the contagion of warlike excitement to Servia, whose population there is considerable difficulty in keeping under restraint. Montenegro, it is said, has been bought off from the insurgents by some cession of territory by the Ottoman Government. Numbers of fighting men find their way from surrounding provinces to the scene of struggle, and a great deal of desultory skirmishing on a small scale is almost daily reported. It would not much avail to set before our readers, even if we could do so with the utmost accuracy, a record of what is being done in this respect. We do not apprehend that the defeats and successes which are daily chronicled by partisan prints will exercise any very important influence upon the final settlement of the dispute. At the same time, we are compelled to confess the impossibility of beforehand setting bounds to a conflagration which has once been kindled in a highly inflammable neighbourhood. It may perchance take a course which nobody with reason could have foreseen, and it may precipitate issues which all parties whom they concern would earnestly desire to postpone.

Holding thus much under reserve, it would seem to us that the cause represented by the Herzegovinians and Bosnians has virtually passed from under their direct control. The adjustment of their differences with the Turkish Government is not likely to be framed by their own hands. In principle, we are given to understand, the Great Powers of Europe have consented to mediate between the Porte and its insurgent subjects; and, although Prince Bismarck once said, “Accepting mediation in principle is the most courteous form of refusal,” the assertion must be taken as one necessarily qualified by the conditions to which it is applied. No doubt there is some hitch in the arrangements devised for the purpose of eliciting from the insurgents a direct statement of their grievances, and of the remedy which they would propose. And it may happen, as it has happened before, that whilst mutual consultations and discussions are going on between the Consuls-General of the great Powers, and the leading chiefs of the rebellion, the Turks may be profiting by the interval thereby afforded them in collecting and organising the men and means requisite for ultimately stamping out the rebellion. The question between Turkey and the insurgent provinces is far more complicated than, at first sight, it looks to be. In Bosnia, for instance, Christians and Mahomedans are in numbers pretty nearly on a par with each other. They are intermingled over the whole territory: the dominant section of landowners and the great majority of men in office being members of the Slav race, albeit disciples of the Prophet. Even supposing the erection of Bosnia into an independent state, subject to Ottoman suzerainty only in matter of tribute, and in all other respects an autonomy, like Servia, it would be found almost impossible to prevent periodical uprisings without expelling from the province those who constitute the dominant section of its people. The Porte can hardly be expected to consent to any arrangement involving this consequence, while it is certain that nothing less than this will permanently satisfy the Slaves who are now in arms, or soothe away the irritation of those who sympathise with their race.

It is probable, however, that Austria will take the most active steps in the work of mediation; she can hardly afford to offend the quick

susceptibility of that considerable portion of her subjects who glory in their Slavonian origin. They will naturally expect her to do the best she can for their suffering kinsmen in the Turkish Empire. They are not prepared, perhaps, to urge her on to direct intervention, and she is certainly not yet prepared for a policy of annexation. What she may desire as an ultimate arrangement in after times may be very different from what would best suit her present purposes. Of all the European Powers, however, the Eastern question touches her interests most closely. With a far-sighted view to the settlement of that question most favourably to her interests, she would naturally wish to combine an immediate policy of peace and moderation with a contingent and remoter one of future aggrandisement. At any rate, she cannot tolerate a condition of chronic Slav disquietude just beyond her own frontier. That she will make some vigorous effort to obtain from the Porte a sensible amelioration of the lot of his Christian Slav subjects can hardly be doubted.

It seems to be generally anticipated that Russia will, to some extent, compete with Austria in employing her influence for the postponement of the Eastern question. At St. Petersburg, as well as at Vienna, the insurrectionists in the South-East of Europe are steadily disconcerted. Russia, however, looking as Austria does, far ahead, is not prepared to forego the place she holds in Slavonian sympathies. Her consular representatives may be instructed to throw no visible obstacle in the way of gratifying the craving of the Christian population in the provinces of Turkey, but, at the same time, to see to it that Austria by her good offices does not obtain any important advantage. Germany cares little about the Eastern question. It touches none of her interests. But Germany is quite as anxious as the other two Powers that, for the present, peace should not be disturbed. It may fairly be anticipated, therefore, that the dangerous question which the insurrection in Herzegovina threatened to open, will not be permitted to take visible form. Turkey will have to fear the penalty of her own misrule by the weakening of her position in Europe. Another warning has been given to her, but a warning which, whatever happens, will not be very likely to be practically recognised. Conceal her mortification as she may, she will yet have to follow the advice (may we not rather say, submit to the dictation?) of foreign Powers in her domestic policy. Rapidly, by her reckless and extravagant political course, she has nearly paralysed her own powers, and must prepare herself to submit to a gradual displacement of her authority. She has probably sunk below the possibility of administrative reform, and the disease of which she is a prey will prove too tenacious to be expelled from her constitution. She is breaking down on all hands, and the next generation seems destined to witness the final withdrawal of Turkish rule from European territory.

RACE AND RACES.

It is dangerous to draw a conclusion from a single fact, and we should have thought that this would have been known at least to literary men. It does not seem to be the case. Captain Webb has performed a wonderful feat in swimming across the English Channel, and it is henceforth inferred that the English race is growing in physical power. We have no desire to detract from the merit of Captain Webb's remarkable and unprecedented exploit, nor do we desire to dispute the statement that Englishmen are improving in physical power. What is certain is that there is no connection between the fact and the conclusion that has been drawn from it. At the same time the subject is an interesting one, and the discussion of it may have no little influence upon the public character of the nation.

In the general examination of this question one great mistake is made, and that is the confusion of the general growth of the human race with the particular growth of a certain section of the human race. Races degenerate, but mankind improves. This is our own reading of history, and we imagine that it is not difficult to support that reading. The Egyptians, the Assyrians, the Jews, the Romans, the Greeks, were in their turn the conquering nations: their races have degenerated, and probably all from the same principal cause—the increase of wealth and luxury, followed by the inevitable deterioration of physical power. Allied to this—and as far as human nature is concerned, necessarily allied—is the fact that wealth and luxury conduce to an indifference to the public welfare; or, in other

words, to the diminution of patriotic feeling. It may be remarkable, but it is true, that the people of poor nations are the most patriotic. What Irishman, what Scotchman, what Swiss ever forgets his country? Is there, or has there been, one amongst them who would not, or is not disposed, to fight for his country to the last? But what is certain amongst the old and degenerated races, is the fact that they ceased to care to fight for their country, and were, therefore, overpowered either by strangers or by neighbours. Moral degeneracy has, in these cases, been followed by physical degeneracy, and, we imagine that, as regards any particular people, this relation of cause and effect will always hold good.

It is for this, amongst other reasons, that so many amongst us welcome, or should welcome, the attention that is now paid to the development of physical power. Our bodies have been given to us by a mysterious law of creation. They are lent to us by the Creator, for the span of our human life, to do the best with them that it is possible, in harmony with other laws, that we can do. We are to make them fitting temples of the soul, but, at the same time, to "keep them under." We have to bring them to what may be termed a co-ordinate perfection—that perfection, however, not consisting in the sole culture and development of animal or brute force. Moral and physical laws always work together, and it is certain that the disobedience of moral law is the surest path to physical degeneration. The race that is the most observant of the higher as well as the lower moralities of life will be, in the long run, the strongest and the best race in all physical aspects.

But while we do not take Captain Webb's feat as proving anything beyond the strength or power of endurance of Captain Webb himself, it may be fairly, we believe, maintained that, as a people, the English are improving both morally and physically. We see it before our eyes. The strength and stature of men, the beauty and grace of women have increased, we should think, to every one's knowledge, during the last generation. The average duration of life, which is almost synonymous with a corresponding increase of physical health, is increasing year by year. Fewer children, in proportion to the total number of children, die, than used to be the case. "Civilisation"—or what is called civilisation—of course demands its victims, and Dr. Beddoe reminds us in his address at the British Association, on "The Mortality of Young People," that amongst the children of professional people, and especially, and singularly enough, amongst the children of medical men, who put an extraordinary strain upon the intellectual faculties of their offspring, there is a disproportionate degree of mortality. But professional people are not in the majority, and, if they lack common-sense in the education of their children, other classes do not.

The English people, as a rule, are, we believe, growing in maturity of intellect, of morals, and we hope, of religion. The elevation in the tone of society as compared with what it was fifty years ago is something marvellous. What is needed for such growth is freedom and facility—freedom and facility to use muscular, moral, and spiritual power; and such freedom we have in greater degree than we ever had, or, with the exception of the English-speaking race elsewhere, than exists anywhere upon the face of the globe. We can work or amuse ourselves as we may choose; think and express our thoughts as we may choose; worship as it may seem to us best to worship. This is the prime condition of physical, moral, and spiritual strength, and, although a limit may be placed to man's growth, there is no reason why thousands, instead of hundreds, should not attain to the greatest growth.

Of course, in the way of getting at perfection individuals make mistakes. One person overtaxes the brains of his children, and produces a deterioration of physical and intellectual power in the descendants of those children. Another person cultivates nothing but his physical energies, and becomes little better than an ape. But, taking all in all, we compare well with our ancestors and with our contemporaries. The time may come when we, in our turn, may drop out of the list of conquering nations. It will scarcely be yet, but it will be when savage virtue shall prove to be stronger than the civilised effeminacy which is the usual accompaniment of wealth and luxury. And then the race that shall succeed us will probably be a better race than our selves, and carry on the development of humanity to a still higher elevation than we have been able, or have chosen, to do. Whether nations prosper or decay depends upon themselves, but the Creator will still work His purposes amongst the nations of men.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

(From a Correspondent.)

The hospitable and lovely town of Clifton has been in a whirl of excitement during the past week, for as our readers are aware the British Association has met in this suburb of Bristol, and has almost by this time dispersed.

The President's address this year has not stirred up the angry feelings which characterised the last meeting at Belfast—feelings which it was unwise and altogether out of place to arouse, and which at one time seriously threatened the success of the Belfast meeting. But if we had a meal of foam last year we have had very heavy dumplings this year. Throughout his inaugural address Sir John Hawkshaw maintained a very intimate "contact with his mother earth," as Professor Tyndall sarcastically prophesied when introducing his successor. The address this year was indeed a somewhat dry and uninteresting catalogue of well-known engineering facts and statistics. A schoolboy could perhaps have prepared it with the aid of a cyclopædia and a few blue-books. Moreover it was read in a low, monotonous tone, so that those nearest the speaker could only hear a word here and there, and the large audience, after patiently waiting for some time, dwindled away by slow degrees, as the address dragged its weary length along. Far different from this was the wonderful dissertation of Professor Balfour Stewart, delivered from the chair of Section A.

There is always some notable feature in the annual gathering of the British Association, and unquestionably Professor Stewart's address was one of the most valuable contributions this meeting has yielded. The subject chosen by the author of "The Universe," was Meteorology in its broadest aspects. This is a topic upon which Prof. Stewart is *facile princeps*. First, he gave a masterly grouping of the known facts of this science, then he traced the connecting links between the most diverse phenomena, and finally threw out, in the form of queries, a number of startling and wonderful generalisations indicating the influence of the sun upon the earth and the pathway along which progress in this intricate subject may in the future be expected. His concluding words we are tempted to quote at length. They are as follows :

As far as we can judge, our luminary would appear to produce three distinct effects upon our globe. In the first place, a magnetic and meteorological effect, depending somehow upon his rotation; secondly, a cyclonic effect, depending somehow upon the disturbed state of his surface; and lastly, the well-known light and heat effect with which we all are familiar. If we now turn to the sun, we find that there are three distinct forms of motion which animate his surface particles. In the first place, each particle is carried round by the rotation of our luminary. Secondly, each particle is influenced by the gigantic meteorological disturbances of the surface, in virtue of which it may acquire a velocity ranging as high as 130 or 140 miles a second; and lastly, each particle, on account of its high temperature, is vibrating with extreme rapidity, and the energy of these vibrations communicated to us by means of the ethereal medium produces the well-known light and heat effect of the sun. Now, is it philosophical to suppose that it is only the last of these three motions that influences our earth, while the other two produce absolutely no effect? On the contrary, we are, I think, compelled by considerations connected with the theory of energy, to attribute an influence, whether great or small, to the first two as well as to the last. We are thus led to suppose that the sun must influence the earth in three ways, one depending on his rotation, another on his meteorological disturbance, and a third by means of the vibrations of his surface particles. But we have already seen that, as a matter of fact, the sun does appear to influence the earth in three distinct ways—one magnetically and meteorologically, depending apparently on his period of rotation; a second one cyclonically, depending apparently on the meteorological conditions of his surface; and a third, by means of his light and heat. Many things besides observations are necessary, if we are to pursue with advantage this great physical problem. One of these is the removal of the intolerable burden that has hitherto been laid upon private meteorologists and magneticians. Another hindrance consists in our deficient knowledge as to what observations of value in magnetism and meteorology have already been made; and a third drawback is the insufficient nature of the present facilities for the invention and improvement of instruments, and for their verification. If Governments would understand the ultimate material advantages of every step forward in science, however inapplicable each may appear for the moment to the wants or pleasures of ordinary life, they would find reasons patent to the meanest capacities for bringing the wealth of mind, now lost on the drudgery of common labours, to bear on the search for those wondrous laws which govern every movement, not only of the mighty masses of our system, but of every atom distributed throughout space.

We were glad to see a few of our leading Nonconformist ministers present at this and other meetings of the British Association. But it is a matter for regret that more do not attend. One of the very highest advantages of the British Association is the opportunity it affords for the mingling of various classes of society in objects of common interest. There is no natural antagonism between the man of science and the minister of religion, but apart,

each become crusted over with asperities towards the other, which are best removed by the pleasant intercourse afforded by the Association meetings. Indeed, after all, the British Association is chiefly useful in its social aspect. Once a year all sorts and conditions of scientific men are thrown together. No addition to scientific knowledge of any great value is expected nor obtained, but a vast amount of shaking of hands and friendly greetings are gone through; the public come to see the *savants*, and the *savants* come to see each other; and everyone leaves much more tired but much better pleased than when he first entered the reception-room.

Literature.

"CLIMATE AND TIME."*

Two theories of the marked changes which the earth's surface has undergone, have with various modifications prevailed. One accounts for the appearances presented in the strata by periodic cataclysms, while the other essays to find a rationale of continuous normal action sufficient to account for all the phenomena. Scientific men more recently have inclined to the latter attitude; and the result is that new incursions are being made from one field of science into another, confusing a little some landmarks that for long were regarded as efficient and final. Climate in reference to geology, —it seems a fantastic and remote relationship! Fire and water were the all-potent agencies once on a day, and had their rival schools. But in nature, it may be said, nothing is either near or remote, all being held in a circle of ceaseless cause and effect: hence the sciences occulte, and thus become mutually interpretive. Sir Charles Lyell was the first who endeavoured in a thoroughly consistent way to account for the present appearances of the earth's crust by silent, slow, continuous, and, if we may so name it, *natural* agencies, precisely such as we see at present at work; and Mr. Croll proves himself a most worthy disciple. He starts from the anti-catastrophic point of view, and demonstrates, with a masterly patience in his array of facts and a sound and deliberate logic in reasoning from them, that "what holds true of the present, holds equally true of the past. Climatic agents are not only now the most important and influential; they have been so during all geological ages." Of course, this statement, unqualified as it is, will meet with some opposition from a large school of geologists; but it is nowadays of less influence than it used to be, and Mr. Croll's book is certain to do not a little to render it still less so. But not only is Mr. Croll adverse to the cataclysmic theory, he sets himself directly to oppose the deductions that have been made by Maury and Dr. Carpenter, with reference to the influence exerted by the Gulf Stream in lowering temperature, as also the theory which has been supported by men of highest repute, that the elevation of the region round the poles and change in the distribution of land and water, may account for the great changes of temperature that have taken place on our globe. On the distribution of land and water Mr. Croll says:—

"Supposing that difference in the distribution of land and water would produce the effects attributed to it, nevertheless it would not account for those extraordinary changes of climate which have occurred during geological epochs. Take, for example, the Glacial Epoch. Geologists almost all agree that little or no change has taken place in the relative distribution of sea and land since that epoch. All our main continents and islands not only existed then as they do now, but every year is adding to the amount of evidence which goes to show that so recent, geologically considered, is the Glacial Epoch that the very contour of the surface was pretty much the same then as it is at the present day. But this is not all; for even should we assume (1) that a difference in the distribution of sea and land would produce the effects referred to, and (2) that we had good geological evidence to show that at a very recent period a form of distribution existed which would produce the necessary glacial conditions, still the Glacial Epoch would not be explained, for the phenomena of warm inter-glacial periods would completely upset the theory."

In declaring so systematically, as he has done, however, against the theory of catastrophe, Mr. Croll is compelled to admit that our "globe" has not only undergone changes of climate, "but changes of the most extraordinary kind." What are these so-called extraordinary changes? Even men of severely scientific type of mind are driven to the most perplexing admissions, while they deal with millions and millions of years in the most equitable manner conceivable.

* *Climate and Time in their Geological Relations. A Theory of Secular Changes of the Earth's Climate.* By JAMES CROLL, of Her Majesty's Geographical Survey of Scotland. (Daddy, Isbister, and Co.)

Geological time puzzles and prostrates the confounded mind, and yet any question with respect to it, is counted very much of an impertinence from one who has become bound in preconceived opinions! When, however, we find it quietly set down that the Eocene alone extended from about 2,620,000 to about 2,460,000, we may well be excused a wish that geologic chronology could be still more limited. Mr. Croll deserves thanks for his effort in this direction. He regards one hundred millions of years as a sufficient time to comprise the world's history from Laurentian or Silurian to modern times. With great ingenuity, he establishes this by reference to the probable age and origin of the sun; contending that the facts relating to the amount and dissipation of the sun's heat will not allow of more for a world capable of supporting life on land and in the air and the sea.

Mr. Croll, having set forth with the principle that the fundamental problem of geology is intimately connected with climatic changes, devotes much of his strength to get some sort of rationale of the various marked changes of climate which have prevailed. Not only have regions now enjoying a temperate climate been at one time desolate as Greenland, but regions now held in a perpetual Arctic winter have once bloomed in luxuriant vegetation. Not to go further back, the period immediately preceding ours witnessed the extension of ice over large parts of Great Britain and the northerly portions of Europe and America; while points within the Arctic circle were adorned with various specimens of Wellingtonia, poplar, willow, beech, and oak, walnut, pine, and plane, during a period preceding the last glacial epoch. Mr. Croll then considers the various explanations of these phenomena, and labours to show their inadequacy—especially dealing with the theory we have referred to, and the gathering of the land round the Poles. Then he proceeds to consider those cosmical changes which alone remain, and these resolve themselves into two:—(1.) A change in the obliquity of the ecliptic; and (2), the variations in the position of the earth in relation to the sun occasioned by the eccentricity of its orbit. Mr. Croll, in opposition to the decision of Sir John Herschel as to the bearing of change of eccentricity on climate, argues that one important consideration hitherto has been overlooked, viz.—that, although the glacial epoch could not directly result from an increase of eccentricity, it might have indirectly done so by setting in operation certain physical agents. For one thing, the winters would then not be only colder than now, but they would also be much longer, and what now falls as rain would then fall as snow. The reduction of the amount of heat received from the sun having inevitably lowered the immediate temperature to an enormous extent, and lengthened the winters by at least thirty-six days, the deflection of the Gulf Stream and other great currents would be one result. Mr. Croll writes:—

"The enormous extent to which the thermal condition of the globe is affected by ocean-currents seems to cast new light on the mystery of geological climate. What, e.g., would be the condition of Europe were the Gulf Stream stopped, and the Atlantic thus deprived of one-fifth of the absolute amount of heat which it is now receiving above what it has in virtue of the temperature of space? . . . and were the currents of the North Pacific also at the same time to be stopped, the northern hemisphere would assuredly be subjected to a state of general glaciation."

But this does not exhaust the area of fact which Mr. Croll is inclined to traverse in support of his hypothesis—astronomy is also made to yield its quota of testimony. Adopting Leverrier's formulas, Mr. Croll has computed the eccentricity of the earth's orbit and longitude of the perihelion for 3,000,000 of years back, and 1,000,000 of years to come, at periods 50,000 years apart. As the result of these computations, it appears that if the glacial epoch resulted from a high state of eccentricity, it must be referred either to the period extending from about 980,000 to 720,000 years ago, or to a period beginning about 240,000 years ago, and extending to about 80,000 years ago. Mr. Croll was at first disposed to refer the extreme conditions of the last glacial epoch to the former period, taking the latter as representing its close, when local glaciers took the place of the ice sheet. He is now, however, inclined to think that the glacial epoch terminated about 80,000 years ago. Certainty cannot at present be claimed for these calculated results—but the method employed is the remarkable point.

Mr. Croll undauntedly extends his wonderful tables to the Eocene and Miocene glacial periods, and concludes, as we have seen, that the Eocene period extends from about 2,620,000 to 2,460,000 years ago, and the Miocene from 980,000 to 720,000 years ago:—

"How totally different must have been the condition of the earth's climate at that period from what it was at

present! Taking the mean distance of the sun to be 91,400,000 miles, his present distance at midwinter is 89,864,480 miles; but at the period in question, when the winter solstice was in perihelion, his distance at mid-winter would be no less than 98,224,289 miles. But this is not all; our winters are at present shorter than our summers by 7-8 days, but at that period they would be longer than the summers by 34-7 days. At present the difference between the perihelion and aphelion distance of the sun amounts to only 3,069,580 miles, but at the period under consideration it would amount to no less than 13,641,579 miles!"

The various points raised in this book are treated with great ability, based on a vast array of facts brought from many regions, and we can confidently recommend it to all who take any interest in geological studies. The patience of true observation and the power of generalisation on remote particulars are to be seen on every page of this ingenious book.

TRAVELLING FOR LADIES.*

The day for "unprotected females" to travel alone made its advent long ago. These travellers seem to have got along pretty well, to have had no difficulty in picking their way through, and to have enjoyed themselves almost, if not quite as well, as though they had had the guardianship of the "lords of creation." In fact, we have very little doubt that the ladies often got along all the better for the absence of the "lords;" with more attention, and what we may term less irritation of circumstance. But, experienced although some may be, all are not experienced, and the little book before us, which contains a great deal of matter in extremely small space, will give them many useful hints. It is probably, nay, certainly, written by a lady who has either travelled a great deal, or has, in other ways, had the advantage of the travels of acquaintances. Possibly even, it is the result of the total experience of all Mr. Cook's lady travellers combined, for, as will be seen, it bears that celebrated caterer's name upon the title-page. At any rate it will prove to be a very useful book to those who are not above profiting from the hints of old travellers.

The author's intention is expressed as follows:—

"My intention is, firstly, to suggest a tour suitable for the various seasons of the year; secondly, to call attention to little things likely to be forgotten; thirdly, to offer advice as to suitable luggage; and, fourthly, what to wear and what to avoid. I hope thus to embrace everything which may conduce to the comfort of ladies, and so make their trips really enjoyable."

Now, first, as to dress generally, upon which subject we find some extremely sensible remarks:—

"In choosing each item of the travelling costume, care should be taken to avoid everything *outre* or *conspicuous*. It will be a proud day for Englishwomen when, instead of the remark 'So English' being applied by foreigners to the most awkward and unsuitably dressed lady they may meet, it will be to the best and most appropriately attired. At present, I am sorry to say, the former mortifying remark may be continually heard."

"It is the greatest mistake to suppose that *anything will do to wear on the Continent.* Is the credit of our own country nothing to us, that we should be content to rest under the assertion that Englishwomen, though renowned for their beauty, are as a rule the worst dressers in the world! A little care in choosing and in manner of wearing articles of dress would soon put us on a level with our critics."

The tours in this book are divided according to the seasons. The first season is January to March, and during that time "a circular tour 'in Italy'" is recommended. The dresses—under-clothing as well as upper-clothing—most suitable for such a tour are described. Let us give a specimen of the practical common-sense to be found in these descriptions:—

"A good supply of *easy boots* is most essential. If ladies would only be persuaded that an extra quarter of an inch does not disfigure, but rather adds to the perfect appearance of the foot, how much discomfort would be avoided."

"Button boots are the best, *elastic sides* being liable to make the ankles swell if worn many hours at a time. Care should be taken on purchasing to have the buttons fastened by means of a slight leathern thong passed through the shank and sewn down between each button. Evening and house boots and shoes are best made of black satin or thin black kid; they are always comfortable and in good taste. Slippers should only be worn in bedrooms of hotels."

"Hats for the sea journey and rough weather should be of soft felt without feathers (as these so quickly get out of condition), and of pliable straw with broad brim for sunny days."

April to May are to be devoted to Northern Italy—and here we have a little extra practical suggestion, the value of which can be seen and might be felt:—

"The same outfit as recommended in foregoing tour will be appropriate for this with the addition of two holland or blue linen costumes; a light dust coloured alpaca or very thin grey Beige jacket will be found invaluable for the hot days sure to be met with."

* *A Few Words of Advice on Travelling and its Requirements Addressed to Ladies.* By H. M. J. S. (T. Cook and Son.)

From June to September we may, of course, go almost anywhere—indeed anywhere in this world. The suggestions put relate to Switzerland, Germany, &c., but afterwards, from October to December, where to go? To Palestine or Egypt, of course, where Messrs. Cook will take you with no more trouble to yourself than if you were journeying through the home counties of England. "Algeria" is brought in for those who have already "done" the other places:—

"To those who have already visited the Holy Land and the south of France, I strongly recommend a trip to Algeria as a pleasant way of spending December and January. The 'season' in Algeria lasts from October to March inclusive, but the heavy rainfalls take place in November and February; therefore, I think December the best time to start.

"The climate is most captivating, and the strange combination of Arab and Moorish ladies, Turkos, Zouaves, Spaniards, Negroes, Maltese, French officers and ladies in the latest Paris fashions, form a never-ceasing panorama.

"For a stay of two months, three or four washing costumes will be required; also one made of light woollen tweed not thicker than flannel; this will be found useful for expeditions into the interior of the country; for general wear, the same outfit as suggested for south of France."

We are next told what to do in America, and on a tour round the world. Hints we have on "Dress for Little Travellers," with many "general remarks" upon all sorts of miscellaneous subjects, books, beds—oh!—

"All bed-linen should be rubbed with camphor before retiring to rest; it has the effect of keeping away insects, and is also a capital disinfectant."

We have looked through this work with that hungry interest with which we read the bills of Mr. Cook's excursions. Perhaps that gentleman could say what people who are obliged to stop at home should do, or is it too much to expect from him?

THE MAGAZINES FOR SEPTEMBER.

Who writes the delicious French tales in the *Cornhill*—so dainty, so full of character, etched rather than drawn, with true French quaintness, pathos and humour? "Monsieur Bedeau" is in this month's number, and many readers besides ourselves will say that it is the most attractive piece of the number. The "Hand of Ethelberta" is making good progress, and the heroine coming out in good colours. There is decisive character in the "Atonement of Leam Dundas," but why, in this second instalment of the tale, should the writer disclose the plot, and leave nothing more to be revealed? We were going to quote passages, but the merest tyro of novel-readers will not require them to be quoted. We have also another of the *Cornhill's* astronomical articles, which have taken, as of course they must, the highest place in contemporary astronomical literature. This month the subject is "The Planets" put in Leverrier's "Balance." It is not an article that can be summarised, but of Leverrier's work, the writer says that it is "the noblest in pure astronomy which this age has seen." He subjects it, however, to critical analysis, which, on the whole, is not favourable to its conclusions. The question is the extent to which the planets disturb each other, but we cannot state it as it should be stated, yet we must quote the last paragraph of the article:—

"But this in no sense affects the value of Leverrier's own labours. Beyond question he has deduced from the observed motions of the planets all that at present can be deduced as to the masses of the different known and unknown parts of that complex system—containing bodies of all orders of size, density, and structure—which occupies the domain of space ruled over by the sun. We spoke of his work, begun more than a third of a century ago, as the noblest work in pure astronomy which this age has seen. This certainly seems no exaggerated estimate of its value. A portion only of the work—that which led to the discovery of Neptune—has been called the greatest achievement of mathematical astronomy since Newton's discovery of the law of gravitation. As regards this portion of his labours, his credit is shared by another astronomer, not less skilful than Leverrier, though circumstances have prevented him from pursuing his course along the difficult path for which his powers fit him. Other astronomers, again, have shared with Leverrier the labour of analysing the movements of particular planets, or rather have gone over the same ground with somewhat similar results. But as Sir John Herschel alone of all astronomers ever surveyed with high telescopic powers the whole of that starlit sphere surrounding our earthly home, so Leverrier alone has submitted to the searching scrutiny of the higher mathematical analysis the whole of that complicated system to which the earth belongs. It adds not a little to the credit due to him for these achievements that during the greater part of his labours he held a high official post, the duties of which (had he been content to follow an example but too common) might well have exonerated him from the continuance of independent labours so arduous and exacting.

We have also another classical article—this time on "Prometheus Bound," in which we have an ethical discussion upon the sense in which Prometheus was criminal. Well, we do not live in the days of old Greece, and the discussion can be carried on with

the freedom of the press of the nineteenth century. A curious "Chinese Legend" follows—legend, apparently, and nothing but legend, but showing how curiously the brain will work. We like better the article on "Birds of Passage," with new quotations—new to us—from Swedish poetry. But why do we not have Tegner's "Svea"? It was not a bird of passage.

We have two special remarks to make concerning this month's *Blackwood*. The first is that it contains, for the first time in our experience, the ground plan of a house described in a novel—the ground plan being as literally and plainly drawn as though it were not the work of the imagination. It belongs to "The Dilemma," which goes on with vigour and animation. The next remark we have to make concerns the article "In a Studio." When the first of this series appeared we questioned, "Who in England could have written it?" We looked around and failed to discover the writer. But our eyes were closed because our sight was short. We have no information, and have heard no guess, but may we ask "Maga" whether anybody but James Russell Lowell could have written these papers? If he does not say "yes" we will surrender any reputation that we may possess for what is termed the "critical faculty." This month's conversation is delicious for its cream of criticism. Nevertheless we are astonished—supposing our guess to be correct—that "Maga" should admit a Republican writer in his columns whatever may be his merits. "North-west Pembrokeshire" will please and interest a section only: many of us will not care much about it. Tennyson's "Queen Mary" is very calmly reviewed. Perhaps this criticism will find many echoes:—

"A much higher place than the one we have endeavoured to demand for it, the play before us will scarcely win in the mind of competent judges. It will be felt to be the work rather of erudition than of the higher imagination, a play in which at least they are present in unequal proportions. Its characters do not strike us as evolved from within, but as built up from without by an ingenious but laborious process of piecing together carefully-collected materials, which at times show the joining too plainly."

But the writer, after saying what he has to say, goes on to suggest a more dramatic subject for Mr. Tennyson—viz., the reign of Henry II., including the struggle with Becket. Shall we put the question, if Mr. Tennyson treats the lesser subject too mechanically, is he likely to be more successful with the greater? Pleasantly humorous is the "Laird at Home," and very readable are the "Elegies," but the selections are too confined, notwithstanding their range from Isaiah to Petrarch. In the last article the "Recent Summer Manœuvres" are dwelt upon with appreciative criticism.

On the whole the *Gentleman's Magazine* for September is not one of the best of numbers, but it is good. One can easily understand why the superlative is wanting. The difficulty is to understand why a good number of any magazine could be produced at this time of the year. But "men must work and women must weep," and so they do in these pages. Mr. Francillon is very cleverly developing his principal character in the "Dog and his Shadow," in picturing, with accurate knowledge of human nature, the weaknesses of a self-educated and irregularly wrought hermit sort of young man when brought into contact, first, with astounding failure, secondly, with non-angular good society. There are very cleverly designed situations in this instalment of Mr. Francillon's tale. In "Rich Hospitals and Poor Homes," Mr. M'Cullagh Torrens advocates the cottage system to which, of course, we shall by-and-bye come. In "Père Hyacinthe's Brethren" we have a graphic sketch of the modern Carmelites, written apparently by one who knows. We conclude that, serge and all notwithstanding, one might fare worse, so far as this life is concerned, than be a Carmelite brother. Mr. Cowden Clarke gives us more genial sketches in his "Recollections of Writers," with an especial and graceful notice of Vincent Novello. We have had many sketches of Coleridge, but this is one of the best:—

"It was in the summer of this last-named year that I first beheld Samuel Taylor Coleridge. It was on the East Cliff at Ramsgate. He was contemplating the sea under its most attractive aspect: in a dazzling sun, with sailing clouds that drew their purple shadows over its bright green floor, and a merry breeze of sufficient prevalence to emboss each wave with a silvery foam. He might possibly have composed upon the occasion one of the most philosophical, and at the same time most enchanting, of his fugitive reflections, which he has entitled "Youth and Age"; for in it he speaks of "airy cliffs and glittering sands," and—

Of those trim skiffs, unknown of yore,
On winding lakes and rivers wide,
That ask no aid of sail or oar,
That fear no spite of wind or tide.

As he had no companion, I desired to pay my respect to one of the most extraordinary—and, indeed, in his department of genius, the most extraordinary man of his age. And being possessed of a talisman for securing his consideration, I introduced myself as a friend and admirer of Charles Lamb. This pass-word was sufficient, and I found him immediately talking to me in the bland and frank tones of a standing acquaintance. A poor girl had that morning thrown herself from the pier-head in a pang of despair, from having been betrayed by a villain. He alluded to the event, and went on to denounce the morality of the age that will hound from the community the reputed weaker subject, and continue to receive him who has wronged her. He agreed with me that that question never will be adjusted but by the women themselves. Justice will continue in abeyance so long as they visit with severity the errors of their own sex and tolerate those of ours. He then diverged to the great mysteries of life and death, and branched away to the sublimer question—the immortality of the soul. Here he spread the sail-broad vans of his wonderful imagination, and soared away with an eagle-flight, and with an eagle-eye too, compassing the effulgence of his great argument, ever and anon stooping within my own sparrow's range, and then glancing away again, and careering through the trackless fields of ethereal metaphysics. And thus he continued for an hour and a half, never pausing for an instant except to catch his breath (which, in the heat of his teeming mind, he did like a schoolboy repeating by rote his task), and gave utterance to some of the grandest thoughts I ever heard from mouth of man. His idea, embodied in words of purest eloquence, flew about my ears like drifts of snow. He was like a cataract filling and rushing over my pennypinching capacity. I could only gasp and bow my head in acknowledgment. He required from me nothing more than the simple recognition of his discourse; and so he went on like a steam-engine—I keeping the machine oiled with my looks of pleasure, while he supplied the fuel: and that, upon the same theme too, would have lasted till now."

The other articles are on the "Geographical Exhibition at Paris," Walton's River (everybody knows what "Red Spinner" would say of the Lea, but not how well he would say it), and another instalment of "Dear Lady Disdain." May we express the fervent hope that "Nat" will never more be heard of? He is a failure in art, which is as bad as being a failure in life. We sincerely trust that this time Mr. McCarthy will allow him to be dispatched, and not do as Thackeray once did, alter his plot to please some very sentimental readers. But we ask whether anyone can be sentimental over an extravagantly sentimental character?

The *Temple Bar* is as usual. Mrs. Edwardes is saving her heroine "Leah" in her customary manner; her sketches of Bohemian society in London one feels to be true enough, but they are not pleasant. The article on "Strafford" tells us nothing new, and is mere padding. Anyone, however, would enjoy "Smith at Trouville," and the history of his courtship with the enchanting American young lady, who put him down in her ivory tablets as the seventeenth of the "rejected" in that month, and the seventieth in her whole list. We suggested last month that "Bitter Fruit" should not end just as Mr. Wilkie Collins' "New Magdalene" ended. It does not. Obviously, however, put together with the same idea, it leaves the same impression, making, we will say, penitent guilt very beautiful indeed, but still not suggesting that guilt may be more profitable than innocence. There is great dramatic power in this tale, and we are not surprised to be informed that Miss Bateman is patented for the heroine on the stage. "Her Dearest Foe" is likeable as ever, and one of the very pleasantest of tales.

"Johnny Ludlow" has given us, in this month's *Argosy*, another episode in his remarkably romantic experiences, naturally written, as usual, and with those half-quaint touches which are the chief charm of his style. "Chandler and Chandler" has many of them. We are glad to get to the end of "Park-water," which has not been one of the best, but certainly the most dismal, of Mrs. Henry Wood's tales. May we recommend Mrs. Wood not to put a murder into her next tale? The progress of the "Secret of the Sea" is rapid. "Victor Hugo" is a made-up article, and of no worth, either critically or biographically, or in any way; but there is a pleasant little novelette, with lambent humour, of "Fine Weather and Fair Women," which people who believe in "society" may read.

Mr. De Liefde is giving a story-history of the "Siege of Stralsund" in the *Leisure Hour*. The history would be better without the story—the writer not exhibiting any dramatic power. We are glad to have another article on "New Guinea" from the Crischona Missionary, and to read the paper on Charles Bloomfield, son of the Bloomfield—not the bishop, but the farmer poet. Is it heterodox to say that the editor's articles this month on "Wales and the Welsh" are really not up to the mark? When an editor puts himself in the front, he should do better than any contributor could do; and this is certainly not the case now. Thanks to him, however, for the article on the Crêche. We quite agree that we ought to call such institu-

tions by the good old English word "nursery." Who is responsible for the "outlandish" introduction of the foreign term, which nobody who has occasion to use the nursery will understand? There are other good papers also. "Gillray" brings to a close the life of that great caricaturist, and there is a second paper on "Thomas Ellwood."

Good Words keeps up its very superior tales, and has, this month, some remarkably good new matter. Amongst this we place Lady Verney's article on Monkeys, Dean Stanley's "Religious Use of Wisdom," Sir Walter Crofton's "Supervision of Habitual Criminals" and Principal Tulloch's "America and the Americans." Dr. Tulloch gives us the impression, in this first paper, of having highly appreciated the American character. He says that civilisation there is certainly in advance of our own in many provisions for the utility and convenience of life, but he is disappointed with the scenery. Of the society he says "kindness is the prevailing feature." This is a good observation:—

"As the better classes of American society very much resemble our own in manners, so do they in tone of thought. There is more freedom and frankness of opinion. American ladies are more lively in political and intellectual discussion than with us; but it is a great mistake to suppose that there is a vein of what we call radical thought everywhere pervading American society. I have nowhere met with a stronger or more intelligent Conservatism than in Boston, and even New York—conservatism, not merely in politics, but in literature and social manners. I had been a good deal bothered with the subject of 'woman's rights' before I left home; I should hear no end of it, I thought, where I was going, and perhaps get some light on a perplexing subject. I was under a total mistake. The same differences of opinion prevail in the United States on the subject as here. Upon the whole the prevailing opinion of the most educated classes seemed to be one of great hesitation, if not of actual repulsion, as to the contingencies of the question. But I am bound to confess that the subject was generally discussed there with far more intelligence and good sense than here, where one generally encounters the extreme either of aggressive advance or of obstinate and uninformed resistance. Woman's position and woman's education are more admittedly subjects of fair argument in America, and you may say what you like on the subject without giving offence."

The *Sunday Magazine* concludes the tale of "Jeannie Wilson," which has been pleasant reading, but still a tale and no more. The "Nasairiyeh" gives us some new information, and "Russian Churches" is interesting, but would be more so if it were more than just a fragment. The "Kaiser's Gift" is a very good historical tale relating to the religious liberty granted to the Bohemian Protestant churches. Mr. Gill continues his exceedingly valuable missionary papers. The papers for the young this month are very good.

Cassell's Family Magazine and the *Quiver* keep up this month their cherished features. *Little Folks*, also, is very good—full of variety, and interest, and information. Let us say a good word for *Kind Words*, which has always matter not thought of elsewhere.

The *Congregationalist* has reached us this month earlier than usual. One of its best papers is on the "Alleged Failure of Christian Missions," and there are singularly original articles on "Christian Almsgiving and Non-resistance," and on "The State-Church and the Temptation," the Church of England as the "Bulwark of Protestantism." Let us quote:—

"The Established Church is unable to make herself simply and unquestionably Protestant, because she is 'established,' yet she feels herself bound to declare that to disestablish and disendow her is to imperil the Protestant cause."

"On the contrary, we believe, appreciating the strength of attachment borne by the great mass of Englishmen, by all Nonconformists, and the large majority of Churchmen, to the fundamental ideas of Protestantism, that disestablishment would, by popularising the Church, diminish greatly the power of the Romanising faction which now carries on operations with impunity, and ultimately expel it. The real defences against priesthood at this moment in the ecclesiastical field are the Nonconformist denominations, whose leading minds have not often been found gravitating Romeward, and showing their flocks how to scale by easy gradients the heights of sacerdotalism and superstition. Not one of their chief prophets proclaims the grand doctrine of development, by which the assembly of Christ's simple followers has grown to an infallible Church, the band of fishermen-apostles to a hierarchy inspired to teach and authorised to rule, the unostentatious and unworldly company of believers and the preachers of a spiritual kingdom to a political despotism. Against all these things, against the superstitions, the priesthood, the political pretensions of the Papacy, they are never weary of protesting. It has been their recognised mission since they began to be, the duty from which they have never swerved. They are no less indefatigable in it at the present hour, and to their minds the idea of entrusting the defence of their cherished principles to the English Establishment seems only one degree less ludicrous than would be the surrendering of them to the tender care of the Vatican. What ground of probability, then, can be shown for asserting that disestablishment will give to Rome an immediate contingent of converts, and an improved chance of converting England?"

BRIEF NOTICES.

Scenes and Sketches from English Church History. By SARAH M. S. CLARKE, author of "Frangiska." (W. Oliphant and Co.) These sketches are written in a graceful and interesting manner, and the subjects are well chosen. There is no reason why such pictures from English Church history should not be as attractive as anything from earlier Church history—which has been found to yield itself to popular purposes in so many hands. Miss Clarke has a faculty of picturesque grouping, which means that she seizes the characteristic point—especially is this true of the sketches of Bishop Ken, and of Wesley and Whitefield, towards the end of the handsome volume, which is very admirably fitted for a present to a young man or young woman. It is well got up in every way.

The Voice of the Bird. By the Author of the "Dove on the Cross." (Nisbet and Co.) These poems are fluent, and mostly indicate real experience. But now and then they lack the lightness and the finality of touch which would suffice to give them a place among classical hymns. In the hymn beginning, "O Father! I am weary," the utter familiarity of the line, "very trying at its best," makes it open to criticism. "O Paradise! O Paradise!" we deem the best in the little volume, which, in spite of some faults, may be found very welcome in a wide circle, and minister to religious feelings.

The Christian Souvenir; or, Reflections for Every Day in the Year. Selected from the Writings of Approved Authors. (W. Oliphant and Co.) These extracts have been made from celebrated writers of old times and of our own day with admirable catholicity. Each reading is full and suggestive, and evangelical unction is never wanting. It is a neat book, and will no doubt be found handy by a large class who cannot read exhaustive treatises, though we fear that this sort of book does tend somewhat to discredit the laborious study of our religious classics, which was more common fifty years ago than now, and which had its own share in disciplining the mind and elevating the affections.

The Second Death and the Restitution of all Things: with some Preliminary Remarks on the Nature and Inspiration of Holy Scripture. A Letter to a Friend. By ANDREW JUKES. Fourth edition. (Longmans and Co.) Not a few will be glad to see this fourth edition of Mr. Jukes' valuable treatise. It is full of fine thinking, and betrays everywhere a devout, inquiring, and ingenuous spirit. His idea of the letter of Scripture being real as well as a revelation is admirably wrought out, and the book, as a whole, shows much spiritual insight, large commerce with Scripture and the instinct for the spirit of Christianity. It is well to know such books as this, whether the opinions be agreed with or not; and we have no doubt that to many the leading ideas will come as a revelation, while the catholic-mindedness and charitable feeling of its author will add a hold to the force of the argument. We have re-read it with no little pleasure.

Memoirs of the Princess Henrietta Caracciolo, ex-Benedictine Nun. From the original Italian. Under the Sanction of the Princess. (Richard Bentley and Son.) This is a new and cheap edition of certainly the most startling revelations of life in an Italian nunnery, and yet the authoress tells us that she has suppressed much, leaving in the shade many a recital. It would be difficult to believe that such a history belongs to our own day, but that there are too many confirmations of it. The authoress was a nun against her will, being immured at the dictate of her mother. Her moral and physical sufferings during the long period of her confinement, her unavailing efforts to escape, her revelations of the life that was led will excite in the reader an unusual interest. And here, too, may be gathered what some priests mean by "Confession," and what is too often its end.

Three Lectures on Education, &c. By ADOLPH OPPLER, Ph.D., M.A. Fourth Edition. (Longmans.) The present edition of this work is an enlarged and revised edition of those that have preceded it. The author treats of popular education both theoretically and practically, and there is a breadth in his treatment which it is not customary to find in English authors. The lectures were delivered before the College of Preceptors, and are especially of value for the suggestions drawn from German sources. We could not be expected to agree in all that is said, but the work is one which will and should be read with interest, and be fruitful in work.

Regeneration. By the late Rev. WILLIAM

ANDERSON, LL.D. Glasgow. With an Introductory Sketch by the Rev. JOHN KER, D.D., Glasgow. (Hodder and Stoughton.) This also is a new edition of a work which has already been noticed in our columns, where also has been reviewed the Life of Dr. Anderson. The present editor has issued this edition—the work being out of print—because it was Dr. Anderson's wish that an edition should be published "at such a price as to bring it within the reach of intelligent working men," and the sections are broken up for "short reading." Our opinion of the singular value of Dr. Anderson's work has been already given; we rejoice in this handy reissue of it.

The London Discourses of Mr. D. L. Moody as delivered in the Agricultural Hall and Her Majesty's Opera House. (James Clarke and Co.) This is a cheap and well-finished issue of Mr. Moody's remarkable discourses, from the notes of special shorthand writers. Having heard some of them delivered, we can bear our testimony—which is scarcely needed—to the accuracy of the reports. There are twenty discourses in this little volume, and, as the editor states, they "may be accepted as giving substantially the whole circle of Mr. Moody's teaching. They were repeated by their author in the four districts of the metropolis in which he laboured, as they had been previously in provincial towns in Great Britain, and also, we understand, in Chicago and other cities in the United States."

All the World Over. Edited by EDWIN HODDER, F.R.G.S. Vol. I. (Thomas Cook and Son.) We received the first number of this periodical with welcome, and are glad to see that it has completed a volume, that now before us in handsome binding and attractive contents. We have, here, travels in various countries, with tales, legends, maps, and illustrations. Mr. Hodder and his staff range pretty nearly all over the world. The world has been opened to one or other of them. Mr. Langley Coleridge asks in an article, "Where shall we go?" This volume takes us anywhere—without the trouble of going.

Obituary.

DEATH OF THE REV. CHARLES PREST.—On Wednesday, one of the most influential and laborious of English Wesleyan ministers, the Rev. Charles Prest, died at his residence, Lee, aged sixty-nine years. He may be looked upon as the founder of the modern Wesleyan Home Missions, and the Wesleyan work in the Army and Navy resulted from this renewed home missionary activity. Mr. Prest commenced his ministerial work at Bristol in 1829, after which he laboured in succession at Chipping Norton, Daventry, Manchester, Bristol, (again), and Birmingham up till 1842, when he was appointed to London, where, save a brief sojourn at Hull, he remained till his death. In 1857 he was appointed secretary of the home mission work, an office which he held by successive appointments as long as he lived. The confidence which the Wesleyan Conference had in him was shown by his being appointed President of the Conference in 1862.

THE REV. NOBLE SHEPPARD, OF SLIGO, the oldest Independent minister in Ireland, departed this life on Sunday, August 18, in the seventy-second year of his age. He commenced his ministry in Newry in 1828, and was called to the pastorate of the church in Sligo in 1835. Entirely through his exertions the handsome Gothic chapel, in which the church at present worships, with schools and manse attached to it, was erected and opened in 1852, clear of debt. Last year saw the fulfilment of his great desire in the completion of the amount required to purchase the plot on which the chapel, schools, and manse stand. Had he been spared in health one week longer, he would have celebrated the fortieth anniversary of his connection with the church in Sligo. The Rev. John White, of Belfast, officiated at the funeral, which took place on August 19, and also preached the funeral sermon on the following Sunday.

THE LATE MR. MANNING PRENTICE, OF STOW-MARKET.—We regret to record the decease of this esteemed and well-known gentleman, head of the firm of Messrs. Thos. Prentice and Co., which took place on the 21st of August at Hastings, after a protracted illness. "In Mr. Prentice's death (says the *Suffolk Chronicle*) Stowmarket has lost one of its leading men, and his demise will be greatly felt not only in this town but throughout the county, where he was well known as a first-class man of business, and as a conscientious and hardworking Nonconformist. In the latter capacity he undoubtedly enjoyed a wide reputation, and we expect there are few villages or small towns in Suffolk in which there is a Congregational chapel where the name of Manning Prentice was not a sound more or less familiar. The deceased gentleman was just one of those men calculated to render Dissent respectable in the eyes of conventional pedantry and stiff-necked bigotry. He was a man

of means; as we have said, of large business connections, of great intelligence, of gentlemanly bearing, of uncompromising principle; and, in a word, carried with him a power which conventionalism is always ready to recognise. We hesitate not to say that whenever Mr. Prentice entered a village and took part in the plain service at the humble chapel the congregation felt the better for it; not only the better for his preaching but for his countenance. It lifted them up; even for that day the inmates of the rectory, who might perchance be of a Ritualistic tendency, would think the better of the little meeting-house which, for the time being, provided so well-known a gentleman as the deceased with a pulpit and a congregation. Occasionally it happens that as Dissenters grow rich they forget first principles, and are apt to coquette with the Establishment, which in most country places is considered to be the most respectable of competing sects. Mr. Manning Prentice had no weakness of that sort. He stood up for and supported Nonconformity as a great principle, and nobody could question his conscientiousness." The mortal remains of Mr. Prentice were interred in the family vault at Stowmarket Cemetery on Saturday afternoon. The funeral obsequies were of the most unostentatious character. Only those who were officially connected with the funeral wore hatsbands, and the corpse was carried to the grave on a bier by relays of bearers. The younger daughters and the sons and sons-in-law, Messrs. Paget and Hobson, and the brothers, Mr. Eustace and Mr. Thomas Prentice, were principal mourners, and Mr. E. Grimwade and Mr. A. Piper, of Ipswich, Mr. W. R. Hewitt and Mr. L. Webb were the pallbearers. The funeral cortège was very large, there being about 200 gentlemen present. In the cemetery there was a large number of spectators. The Rev. J. Reeve, the pastor of the Congregational Chapel at Stowmarket, read the service at the grave. During the funeral the principal shopkeepers in the town put their shutters up, and the private inhabitants showed signs of respect to the remains of the departed by drawing their blinds. On Sunday evening the Rev. J. Steer, of Sudbury, preached the funeral sermon to a large congregation at the Congregational Chapel in Ipswich-street. He chose for his text the 7th and two following verses of the 14th chapter of Romans. In conclusion, he gave a brief but judicious review of Mr. Prentice's life, detailing the circumstances of his education under the Rev. Mr. Cecil at Ongar, his work in early life at High Easter, in Essex, and his subsequent ministrations at the chapel at Stonham; his efforts as an open-air preacher, for which he (Mr. Steer) thought Mr. Prentice was specially fitted; his connection with the Nonconformist societies of the county; and withal his great sagacity and business tact as head of a large mercantile firm.

THE LATE MR. W. SHAW, J.P., OF LONGWOOD—Our obituary records the death of this highly-respected gentleman, the senior partner in the firm of Wm. Shaw and Sons, woollen manufacturers and cotton spinners of Longwood, Yorkshire, where they carry on a business of great magnitude. The deceased gentleman, who was well known and respected throughout the district as a thorough man of business, was for thirty-nine years a member of the Baptist Church at Salendine Nook, Huddersfield, for a large portion of that time a deacon, and also superintendent of the Sunday-schools. He served the township of Longwood for several years as chairman of the local board, and had been president of the Mechanics' Institution there. He was appointed a justice of the peace for the borough of Huddersfield on the formation of the commission, and was last year vice-president of the Huddersfield Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Shaw was likewise a director of the Mutual Insurance Company from the time it was established, and was for several years, up to the time of his death, a director of the Huddersfield and Halifax Union Banking Company. Thus it will be seen that the deceased gentleman was a very active man of business, and deemed by a large number of people in the neighbourhood a man worthy to fill many of the most honourable positions in life. The deceased was a staunch advanced Liberal in politics, and frequently presided at political meetings in the neighbourhood. At the funeral, which took place at Salendine Nook on Wednesday, there was a large attendance, and the magistrates of Huddersfield adjourned for several hours that such as desired might have an opportunity of showing their respect to Mr. Shaw. A number of members of the corporation, including the mayor and personal friends, were in the carriages that followed. There was a short service in the house, conducted by the Rev. H. Dowson, principal of the Baptist College, Manchester, and the procession proceeded to the schoolroom, where the Rev. John Stock, LL.D., officiated, and after devotional exercises delivered an address. The following is an extract:—

Our deceased friend was well known as a large employer of labour in this locality, and one of the foremost men of our commercial community. He was a prominent advocate of the great principles of political justice and religious equality. He occupied an important position on the magisterial bench of this borough, and was esteemed a wise and impartial administrator of the law. He was ever ready to sustain, with his purse and his influence, our various local charities; indeed, no cause which he conscientiously believed to be a good one ever sought his aid in vain. I have reason to know that he gave away in the aggregate immense sums of money of which no one ever knew anything but himself, the recipient, and his God. When it was resolved to build a new college for the Particular Baptist denomination at Manchester, Mr. Shaw agreed

to contribute one-tenth of the cost, whatever it might be. That tenth was paid, and when notwithstanding there remained a heavy deficit, our departed friend again came forward, and agreed to give one-tenth of the balance, provided the whole were raised. The princely challenge was accepted, and the result was that that noble building is now virtually free of debt. But the most cheering fact that we have to consider to-day is, that our deceased friend lived and died a Christian. He was received into this church on Sept. 25, 1836, so that for nearly thirty-nine years he had been a member of this Christian community, and at his death was its senior deacon. His faith in the Gospel was unshaken by all the upheavings of thought that have marked this age. While others have drifted from their anchorage in the hope of the Gospel, he held fast the beginning of his confidence steadfast unto the end. To the last his naturally vigorous intellect retained its strength, and the final utterances of his lips showed that he was still resting upon the Rock of Ages.

After the close of the service in the school, the body was borne to the family vault in the graveyard of the chapel on the opposite side of the road. There the Rev. Henry Dowson read a few passages of Scripture, and pronounced the Benediction, which brought the mournful ceremonial to a close. The relatives then returned to Dale House. At the meeting of the Borough Police Court, the Mayor (with whom there were on the Bench six other magistrates) said that before they commenced their proceedings that morning he felt it to be his duty to allude to the loss they had lately sustained by the death of Mr. William Shaw, of Dale House, and he was sure he expressed the feeling of that Bench when he said that he deeply sympathised with his widow and the bereaved family. They felt that they had lost a valuable friend, and that the public had lost an ornament of that Bench, for he was ready and at all times willing to do what was right in the administration of justice in that court.

Miscellaneous.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—The screw frigate *Valorous*, which accompanied the two Arctic ships *Alert* and *Discovery* to Disco, with stores for the Arctic expedition, arrived at Plymouth on Monday. A correspondent of the *Standard* gives particulars of the *Valorous*'s voyage to Disco and back. He describes the ship as having been much overladen with stores, and states that on the passage out she experienced bad weather. She arrived at Disco in five weeks and a day—nearly two days before the *Alert* and the *Discovery*, both of whom suffered severely from the tempestuous weather. The stores were transferred to the expedition ships, and all three went together a little distance up Waigat Straits, where they parted. In that locality they met with a great quantity of ice. They parted in sunshine, but the weather soon changed into a fog with a cold cheerless drizzle, which speedily shut out of sight the vessels they had so long accompanied. At the time of finally parting company with the Arctic ships the crews of both were in perfect health and excellent spirits, having the utmost confidence in their gallant chief and their ultimate success. The *Valorous* had only proceeded a short way on her return passage when she ran upon a rock, and was detained at Holsteinborg twelve days for repairs. As the weather proved very favourable, with only light winds, and those fair, and little or no sea, she was enabled to obey her orders relating to deep-sea sounding and dredging, which it was feared she would have had to abandon on account of her disabled condition. In these dredgings many new and valuable specimens have been brought to the surface, and will doubtless be highly prized in the scientific world.

A WARNING.—The tax-payers will do well to be on their guard, and prepare themselves for heavy demands upon their purses and upon their credulity next session; for it is announced that the Secretary for War, Mr. Gathorne Hardy, has at length resolved to take action upon the persevering "Give! give! give!" cries of the Duke of Cambridge, and will, therefore, appeal to Parliament to sanction a further extensive "reorganisation" of the army. It is stated that a "complete series" of measures in this direction will be prepared and submitted. One might have supposed that, after the millions demanded by, and given to, Mr. Cardwell, the late War Minister, for setting the army on a right basis once for all, there would be no need—at least, so soon and so early—for further extensive changes. But it would appear that the British army is never safe from fear, nor its officers from apprehensions. At any rate, they never seem tired of asking for more money. The heavily-taxed people have repeatedly been assured that, if they will "only come down handsome just this once," they shall be put into a state of security. Again and again, large sums have thus been voted by easy and credulous Parliaments; and now the process is to be repeated. With the large majority of members of both Houses directly or indirectly interested in profuse army expenditure, there can be little doubt that Mr. Hardy's demands will be acceded to, whatever they may be, unless the tax-payers speak out decidedly, and induce their representatives to refuse further demands for an insatiable "Service," already far more costly than any other in the world. And if the countless sums expended on it have not kept it from chronic "inefficiency," it is hopeless to expect anything different in the future.—*Herald of Peace*.

THE SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE.—The statute to amend and extend the Supreme Court of

Judicature Act, 1873, has been printed. It is a very long one of forty-nine sheets, and is to be construed with the other one, and, with the rules and orders to be observed, will be food for consideration during the present long vacation. The new law, consisting of the two acts, will come into operation on the 1st of November. Notwithstanding the provisions in the principal statute abolishing the appellate jurisdiction of the House of Lords, the right is to be reserved until the 1st of November, 1877. The present number of judges is not to be reduced. The constitution of Her Majesty's Court of Appeal is declared, and there will be divisions of the courts—Queen's Bench, Common Pleas, and Exchequer. All the officers of those courts are continued, and on appeals are to attend the High Court of Justice. The Probate Court and the Court of Admiralty will act in divisions, and the present judge of the latter is to give up his ecclesiastical appointment if he accepts the appointment of one of the judges of the High Court before the commencement of the Act. The London Court of Bankruptcy is not transferred to the High Court. A plaintiff has option as to which division he will sue in. Three judges are to constitute the Court of Appeal. Before and after the commencement of the Act rules may be made for the sittings of the courts, &c., and Her Majesty is empowered by order in council to make regulations as to the circuits of the judges. There are other provisions to carry out the new law, and the last section, number thirty-five, provides that the present chamber clerks may be re-appointed on a vacancy at the same salary. The statute only extends to seven sheets, and the remaining forty-two comprise the orders and forms. There are sixty-three rules and numerous forms set out to be used. There is to be no local venue, and causes may be tried before a judge or before a judge and assessors, or jury, or official referee. Although terms are abolished, the "long vacation" is preserved, and is to commence as usual on the 10th of August and terminate on the 24th of October. There is to be a vacation of a week at Easter, Whitsuntide, and Christmas. Two of the judges, however, are to sit in the vacation for the hearing in London and Middlesex of such applications as may require to be immediately or promptly heard, and they may sit either together or separately as a divisional court. The vacation judges of the High Court may dispose of all actions, matters, and other business of an urgent nature during any interval between the sittings of any division of the High Court to which such business may be assigned, although such interval may not be called or known as a vacation. The two statutes, with the various rules, and others to be added, will require much attention. The courts now known as Queen's Bench, Common Pleas, and Exchequer, with the Probate and Admiralty Courts, will still exist in their several divisions, and "Her Majesty's Court of Appeal" is now substituted for the Court of Chancery. The ordinary judges of the Courts of Appeal are to be styled "Justices of Appeal." The two statutes on the Supreme Court of Judicature will take effect, as stated, on November 1.

Gleanings.

Learn thoroughly what you do learn, be it ever so little, and you may speak it with confidence. A few clearly defined facts and ideas are worth a whole library of uncertain knowledge.

The following inscription was recently found on an unclaimed bonnet at railway station:—

This box contains my very best bonnet;
So, porter, I pray you, put nothing upon it—
It is made of a ribbon, a rose, and a feather,
With crimp lace and velvet to hold them together.

An Irish clergyman once broke off the thread of his discourse and thus addressed the congregation: "My dear brethren, let me tell you that I am just half through my sermon; but as I perceive your impatience, I will say that the remaining half is not more than a quarter as long as that you have heard."

This characteristic illustration of the parrot drill of public schools is given by a writer who fell in with a schoolboy, and offered him a penny if he would tell him the names of all the capitals in Europe. It was done, and quickly. "Now," said the gentleman, "I will give you another penny if you will tell me whether they are animals or vegetables?" "Animals," was the confident answer.

A HIGHLAND ILLUSION.—It is a matter of fixed belief in the Highlands of Scotland that the Garden of Eden was in a northern glen, that our first parents were pure Celts, and that the language of Paradise was the Gaelic. This conviction has been adapted to immortal verse by a clerical poet of the north country in the following beautiful stanza:—

When Eve, arrayed in all her charms,
First met fond Adam's view,
Ta first words tat he said to her
Were Cunmurr a' skin diu.

AMERICAN HUMOUR.—A little boy was carrying a bottle of ginger-pop down the street the other day, when suddenly the cork popped out and popped him in the north eye. When he had sufficiently recovered from his astonishment he yelled so vigorously that a small crowd soon collected around him to ascertain the matter. Two carpenters at work on the next block around the corner, in their anxiety to see what the excitement was about, fell out of the second story window on to a peanut stand beneath. Then two women fainted,

one of whom suddenly disappeared in an adjacent coal cellar. Three small boys shouted "Fire!" and a man with a long ladder on his shoulder, hearing their cries, turned around suddenly, and after overturning an apple woman amid the demoralising ruin of her wares, the end of the ladder demolished a plate-glass window, and finally settled itself on an old gentleman's worst corn. Then a fat old lady had an eye gouged out by an umbrella, and a Dutchman and Irishman, after excitedly endeavouring to explain to each other the cause of it all, got into a fight and rolled recklessly into the gutter. By this time seven policemen, headed by two fire-engines, came upon the scene and arrested nine innocent lookers-on. This had the effect of dispersing the crowd, most of whom to this hour havn't the remotest idea what it was all about anyhow.—*Danbury News*.

ATTWOOD OF THE THOUSAND-POUND CHEQUES.—A relative of the late Benjamin Attwood asks us to correct an error in the statements that went the round of the newspapers after the death of this millionaire. He was not a bachelor; but a married man, without family, and long a widower. He adopted a niece, and brought her up from childhood. She lived under his roof until she married, without the consent of her uncle, who never forgave the offence, and never was reconciled to her. The lady and her husband now live near London, respected not less in the lack of the lost fortune. With regard to Mr. Attwood's life we have received some particulars, of which the following may be of general interest. He was a member of the well-known banking family of Attwood, but not personally connected with the bank at Birmingham. He amassed a fortune as a glass-merchant, having an office in Bridge-street, Blackfriars, London, where the Royal Hotel now stands. He was also largely interested in the General Steam Navigation Company, and frequently went voyages in their vessels. Upon one occasion he visited the late Emperor Napoleon in Paris. He lived for many years of his life in the Grove-end-road, St. John's Wood. He was a Fellow of the Zoological Society, and also of the Royal Botanical Society, which in its earlier years he aided by his purse and efforts. He was always ready to help any local charities, invariably requiring that his name should not be published. He usually attended a Baptist Chapel in that neighbourhood. Probably his great wealth was not known or suspected, or the demands upon him would have been heavy and unceasing. His wife, who died in 1853, was a large-hearted, generous woman, and had probably much influence in the disposition of his means. In his later years he gave his donations almost entirely through his bankers, and the secret of the much-discussed cheques was well sustained. We are assured, however, that the total said to have been given has been greatly exaggerated. In recording the large and generous gifts of Mr. Attwood, it is right to mention that surprise has been felt that he did nothing to relieve the dire distress caused by the failure of the Attwood bank of Birmingham. It is true there was no legal claim, nor even any moral claim, yet it might have been in good taste and right feeling to have helped in such a calamity. An unusual proportion of the depositors were people in middle and humble life, and some aid to them would have been well-bestowed and generous charity. Other members of the Attwood family were applied to and refused to assist. Benjamin was not asked, so far as we have heard, but he must have been well aware of the circumstances of that ruinous affair.—*Leisure Hour*.

AS IT IS.**AS IT OUGHT TO BE**

In 'THE TIMES' of Jan. 7th, Dr. HASSALL writes:— "At the Docks, where Horniman's Teas are in bond, I took samples from analysis of tea; of 18 samples, all were found to be adulterated. They were all artificially coloured with Prussian blue, turmeric, & a mineral powder. The substances used in facing tea serve no useful purpose, the quality being equally bad, but render practicable other adulterations." A. H. HASSALL, M.D.

3,248 AGENTS—Chemists, Confectioners, &c. in every town sell HORNIMAN'S PACKET TEA.

EPPS'S COCOA.—**GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.**—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cacao, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast-tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—"Civil Service Gazette."

THE REV. W. J. PORTER, of Bristol, writes:—"Suffering from toothache, and having tried several supposed remedies without effect, I was advised to try Bunter's Nervine, which I did, and it effected a permanent cure. For six years a decayed tooth prevented mastication on the side it was situated, as well as causing many sleepless nights; but having used Bunter's Nervine I am not only relieved of the most irritable of all pains, but can now use the tooth without the slightest inconvenience, and therefore can confidently recommend it to all who suffer from toothache."—To be had of all chemists, at 1s. 1d. per packet.

VALETUDO VISQUE LIBERIS.—"A preparation known as Dr. Ridge's Patent (cooked) Food is excellent for infants and invalids. It will be found a very useful preparation for making custards, puddings, and similar preparations for the nursery and sick room."—Extract from "Cassell's Household Guide." Supplied by most chemists and grocers in 1s. packets and 2s. 6d. tins.—Dr. Ridge and Co., Royal Food Mills, Kingland, N.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[A uniform charge of One Shilling (prepaid) is made for announcements under this heading, for which postage-stamps will be received. All such announcements must be authenticated by the name and address of the sender.]

BIRTH.

SPENCER—Aug. 25, at Branbridges, near Tonbridge, the wife of Richard Knoles Spencer, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

SPARROW-BELL—Aug. 25, at the Congregational Church, York-street, Walworth, by the father of the bride and the Rev. Isaac Doxsey, R. H. Sparrow, Esq., M.D., of Oldham, to Catherine Matilda (Katie), elder daughter of the Rev. Alexander Bell, Westerham, Kent.

ELLISON-ANDERSON—Aug. 25, at the Congregational Chapel, Cleckheaton, Francis Beaumont Ellison, only son of Geo. Ellison, Threelands, Birkenshaw, to Henrietta, fifth daughter of the late James Anderton, Upper House, Cleckheaton.

DEATHS.

PRENTICE—June 15, at Sydney, Arthur William, younger son of Thomas L. and Catherine Prentice, of South Beddington, Carshalton. Aged 25.

PRENTICE—Aug. 21, at Hastings, after a protracted affliction, aged 52 years, Manning Prentice, Esq., head of the firm of Thomas Prentice and Co., Stowmarket, leaving a widow and eleven children to mourn their irreparable loss.

SHAW—Aug. 21, at Dale House, Longwood, in his sixty-first year, W. Shaw, Esq., J.P.

SPENCER—Aug. 26, at Branbridges, near Tonbridge, in child-birth, Martha, wife of Richard Knoles Spencer, and daughter of the late Rev. Alexander Stewart.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Have the remedy within your reach. Nothing has yet equalled the efficacy of Holloway's Balsamic Pills in checking disease in and restoring vigour to the human body. They root out all impurities from the blood, and regulate and invigorate every organ. Immense care is taken to secure the genuine preparation to the public, that no disappointment may be caused to invalids seeking health by Holloway's medicine. Their composition and careful packing, prevent the impairment of their virtues, by time, sea-voyage, or climate. They never gripe or cause inconvenience. In disturbances of the system, disorders of the digestive apparatus, and derangements of the bowels, these pills exercise an almost magical power, which conquers disease, safely, quickly, conveniently, and cheaply.

THE INSTITUTION FOR DISEASES OF THE SKIN, 227, Gray's Inn-road, King's-cross, is open on Monday and Thursday evenings from six till nine; the City branch, 10, Mitre-street, Aldgate, on Wednesday and Friday evenings. The institution is free to the necessitous poor; payment is required from other applicants.

DELICATE CHILDREN.—Weakening diseases require tonic treatment.—The condition of the blood in children suffering from general debility, rickets, spinal disease, wasting, paralysis and consumption; from spasmodic croup, epilepsy, worms, weak eyes and all eruptions, is one of poverty, requiring a tonic to enrich it, and clear the system from all impurities. The best medicine for all the above ailments is Stedman-Phillips' Tonic Drops, which will add colour to the cheeks and restore the little patients to robust health, and parents should not fail to give them a proper course. Prices 13*sd.*, 2*sd.*, 3*sd.*, and 4*sd.* 6*d.* Of all chemists, or a large bottle sent for 5*s.* P.O. by the Proprietor of Stedman's Teething Powders, the safest remedy of their kind for infants' teething. Depot, 74, East-road, London, N.

AFTER an experience of over forty years, it has been established that there are few instances of defects of the hair which cannot be arrested, neutralised, or remedied by the use of Mrs. S. A. Allen's World's Hair Restorer, and the favourable effect may be seen at once, and though the hair may have become grey, thin, or faded, it may be renewed and restored to all the glossy loveliness of which it is susceptible. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers, Depot, 114 and 116, Southampton-row, London.

LOVELINESS ON THE INCREASE.—A marked increase of female loveliness is the eye-delighting result of the immense popularity which Hagan's Magnolia Balm has obtained among ladies everywhere. Complexions radiant with snowy purity, and tinged with the roseate hue of health, are commonly met with wherever it is used. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers, in bottles, and elegant toilet case at 3*s.* 6*d.* Depot, 114 and 116, Southampton-row, London.

DYEING AT HOME.—JUDSON'S DYES are most useful and effectual. Ribbons, silks, feathers, scarfs, lace, braid veils, handkerchiefs, clouds, berneuses, Shetland shawls, or any small article of dress can easily be dyed in a few minutes, without soiling the hands. Violet, magenta, crimson, mauve, purple, pink, ponceau, claret, &c., sixpence per bottle, of chemists and stationers.

Advertisements.**C L I F T O N V I L L E, M A R G A T E.**

High-class PREPARATORY SCHOOL for YOUNG GENTLEMEN. References to parents.—For terms, &c., address Miss Newman, Surrey House, Cliftonville, Margate.

WASHING MACHINERY.
LAUNDRY FITTINGS.
DECLIVITY AND OTHER CHURNS.
SEWING MACHINES & TOOLS.
OF ALL KINDS FOR HOUSE, GARDEN, DAIRY, &c.
STABLE &c.
140, 142, & 147 HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON.
LAWN MOWERS &c.
OF EVERY MAKE, &c.
EVERY SIZE.
CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION.

THE SEASIDE.—FELIXSTOWE.—**LODGINGS**, in a large House or separate Cottages in private grounds, TO BE LET (with or without attendance), in this healthy seaside place during September. Bathing safe and excellent. Terms moderate.—Apply to Mr. Spurling, Martello-place, Felixstow, Suffolk.

EDUCATION.—TO LET, HYGEIA, admirably adapted for a School, to which it has been applied fifty years. The Accommodation is sufficient for Forty Boarding and Thirty Day Scholars. It is situated in the beautiful village of Prestbury, One Mile from Cheltenham, on a deep bed of gravel from whence is derived an abundant supply of Pure Spring Water. Reference is permitted to the Rev. Mr. Edwards, A.M., Rector of the Parish, and to the Rev. Dr. Brown, of Cheltenham. For Terms, apply to **ENGALL, SANDERS, COX, and PEARSON, Agents, Cheltenham.** The Proprietor would LET the Premises for a **Maison de Sante.**

PUPIL WANTED.—A TOWN SURVEYOR and Architect has a VACANCY for a YOUTH.—Address, O. Z., care of Messrs. Short and Pickering, Printers, Hinckley, Leicestershire.

THE Rev. W. A. O'CONOR has repeatedly requested the EDITOR of "The Guardian" to quote a single passage in justification of the term "twisted," applied to his writings on Dec. 27, 1871.

THE LETTER EXCHANGE.—A great accommodation to the Public. Persons wishing to receive letters privately, or answers to advertisements, can have them addressed to "The Letter Exchange" Office, 8, Ludgate-arcade, Ludgate hill, E.C., for the trifling charge of One Penny per letter. Large numbers by special agreement.

O R P H A N W O R K I N G S C H O O L, HAVERSTOCK HILL.

Mr. JONADAB FINCH having been APPOINTED SECRETARY in the place of Mr. Joseph Soul, resigned, all communications respecting the above Institution should be sent addressed to him at the Office, 73, Cheapside, London, E.C.

C O - O P E R A T I V E C R E D I T B A N K, MANSION HOUSE CHAMBERS, 11, QUEEN VICTORIA-STREET, E.C. First Issue of Capital—£500,000, in subscriptions of One Pound and upwards. Interest in lieu of dividend, 18 per cent. per annum, paid monthly. Current accounts opened, and 5 per cent. interest allowed the Minimum Monthly Balances.

CHEQUE BOOKS SUPPLIED. The Bank grants Credits and issues Circular Notes for the Continent and America, and transacts every description of sound financial business.

For particulars apply to R. B. OAKLEY, Manager.

THE BIRKBECK BUILDING SOCIETY'S ANNUAL RECEIPTS EXCEED FOUR MILLIONS.

HOW TO PURCHASE A HOUSE FOR TWO GUINEAS PER MONTH, With Immediate Possession and no Rent to pay.—Apply at the Office of the BIRKBECK BUILDING SOCIETY, 29 and 30, Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane.

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Pamphlet containing full particulars may be obtained post free on application to

FRANCIS RAVENSCROFT, Manager.

CITY ROYAL PIANOFORTE and HARMONIUM SALOON.—KEITH, PROWSE, and Co. having completed the rebuilding and enlargement of their premises, invite all buyers to inspect their varied STOCK of PIANOFORTES, Harmoniums, and American Organs. Specialities:—New Boudoir Model Pianette, in walnut, with truss legs on plinths, full compass, 25 guineas, the cheapest, strongest, and most elegant pianette yet produced; the Library Model Harmonium, in light oak, 25 guineas; the Gothic Model Harmonium, in dark oak, with handsome antique carving, 70 guineas.

City Depot for Mason and Hamlin's American Organs, No. 48, Cheapside.

FLUTES.—The NEW MODEL FLUTE (old fingering), for beauty and volume of tone unsurpassed, 3*½* guineas and seven guineas. Also Rudall and Co.'s Prize Medal Flutes, new and second-hand. A great variety of second-hand flutes of all fingerings, at

KEITH, PROWSE, and Co.'s Manufactory, 48, Cheapside.

BANJOES.—The NEW CHEAPSIDE Model is the best. Machine head, covered back, &c., 5 guineas; other models 1 to 12 guineas. The new scale for pasting on the fingerboard 6*d.* nett. The new Instruction Book, with full directions for learning the Banjo, and a large collection of airs, songs, &c., 6*s.* nett. Keith, Prowse and Co., 48, Cheapside.

MUSICAL BOXES by NICOLE, FRERES.—KEITH, PROWSE, and Co., direct importers, offer parties seeking really fine, well-tuned instruments, a selection of more than 400 boxes, with all the recent improvements, from £4 to £150. Buyers are requested, before purchasing, to visit the new saloons, specially devoted to the sale of these enchanting instruments, which for quality have no equal. Musical Box and Self-acting Instrument Depot, No. 48, Cheapside.

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ONE YEAR'S SYSTEM OF HIRE,
At 2/6 per Week,
WITH OPTION OF PURCHASE.

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MACHINE ON HIRE MAY BE
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Without any Addition to the Cost.

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FOR PLAIN OR ORNAMENTAL SEWING.
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MACHINES ARE THE BEST FOR
THE FAMILY,
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AND ALL CLASSES OF
LIGHT and HEAVY SEWING.

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MACHINES HAVE OBTAINED UPWARDS OF
150 PRIZE AWARDS,
Including MEDALS, CUPS, DIPLOMAS OF HONOUR,
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THEY HAVE THE LARGEST SALE.
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WERE MADE AND SOLD IN 1874,
BEING MORE THAN
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BLYTHE ... 3, Market-place. BOLTON ... 101, Bradshaw-gate and 27, Oxford-street.
BOSTON ... 3, Market-place. NOTTINGHAM ... Town Club Buildings.
BRADFORD ... 38, Mechanic Institute. PLYMOUTH ... 2, Union-st.
BRISTOL ... 18 & 19, High-st. READING ... 61, London-st.
CANTERBURY ... 17, St. Margaret's-street. SALFORD ... 4, Cross-lane.
CREWE ... 76, Market-street. SOUTHAMPTON ... 105, High-st.
EXETER ... 18, Queen-street. SOUTH STOCKTON ... Britannia-street.
GLOUCESTER ... 116, Westgate-street. SPENNIMORE ... Tudhoe Grange Market.
IPSWICH ... 19, Buttermarket. WOLVERHAMPTON ... George-st.
KNIGHTLEY ... Market-place. WORCESTER ... 2, St. Nicholas-street.
LEEDS ... 14, Boar-lane. YARMOUTH ... Broad-row.
LEICESTER ... 56, Gallowtree-gate. CARDIFF ... 5, Queen-st.
LIVERPOOL ... 21, Bond-street. CARMARTHEN ... 7, Llanmas-st.
MAIDSTONE ... 6, King-street. MERTHYR ... 1, Victoria-st.
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THE SINGER

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DUNDEE ... 128, Nethergate. STIRLING ... 61, Murray-place.
DUNFERMLINE ... 8, Bridge-st. STRANRAER ... 56, George-st.
EDINBURGH ... 74, Princes-st. BELFAST ... 4, Donegal-square
GALASHIELS ... High-st. North.
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CATALOGUES POST FREE.

THOMAS COOPER'S REMAINING
ENGAGEMENTS for the YEAR 1875.

SEPTEMBER.—1, 2, 3, Lincoln.
4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Chatham (Kent).
10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, Woolwich (Kent).
16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29,
30, London.*

OCTOBER.—1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, Salisbury.
8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, Exeter.
15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, Taunton (Somerset).
22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, Clevedon (Somerset).
29, 30, 31, Bristol.

NOVEMBER.—1, 2, 3, 4, Bristol.
5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, Abingdon (Berks).
11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, Oxford.
19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, Cambridge.
26, 27, 28, 29, 30, Peterborough.

DECEMBER.—1, 2, Peterborough.

3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Coventry.
10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, Leamington.
16, 17, Lincoln.
18, 19, 20, 21, Gainsbro (Lincolnshire).
22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Lincoln.

* During the time I am in London, Letters to be addressed to the care of "Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton, 27, Paternoster-row, London, E.C."

Letters to be addressed, "Thomas Cooper, Lecturer on Christianity," at the town to which I am appointed, as "Salisbury," "Abingdon, Berks," &c.

Also, Letters addressed, at any time, to Mrs. Cooper, 2, Portland-place, St. Mary's-street, Lincoln, will be duly forwarded to me.

Correspondents are requested NOT to put "Post-office" on their Letters to me.—T. C.

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It stands on high ground and overlooks the Crystal Palace and the Surrey Hills.

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